

THE
Library Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

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VOL. 5. NOS. 7-8.

JULY-AUGUST, 1880.

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NEW YORK: OFFICE OF PUBLICATION, 13 and 15 Park Row.

LONDON: TRÜBNER & Co., 57 and 59 Ludgate Hill.

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION, \$5.00 £1.

MONTHLY NUMBERS, 50 cts. — 2s.

Entered at the Post-Office at New York, N. Y., as second-class matter.



Will be Issued September 1st, 1880.

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The magazine will contain over one hundred octavo pages of reading matter, printed and bound in excellent style, with a steel portrait, in the first issue, of Rev. Barnas Sears, D. D., late General Agent of the Peabody Fund in the South. Articles will also appear in the first number from Dr. McCosh, Dr. Harris, Rev. R. H. Quick, Mr. F. B. Sanborn, Prof. Hailmann, Prof. Merriam, Prof. Joynes, Miss Landers, Mrs. Hopkins, Dr. Sears, and others. No educational paper or magazine in England or America has hitherto devoted itself exclusively to the domain of higher education, and to the philosophy which underlies all educational methods.

We are glad to learn, in reply to our prospectus, that a large constituency is ready to contribute to and give a liberal support to such a magazine. The most advanced educational thought of our times is in the possession of our English-speaking people. Whatever may have been true of the past as to the superiority of German or French authorities in education, all must admit the fact that the American and English mind is profoundly awake to educational theories and methods. On the philosophic side of our work, and its consequent influence on practical effort, the outlook is grandly encouraging.

To all educational thinkers our magazine will be a welcome visitor, and the medium for the expression of their awakened and matured convictions. Ladies and gentlemen of the highest worth and position have urged us to commence the work; and with the call which seems to come from the leaders to move forward, we have done so, trusting in the generous patronage of the libraries, educators, and the cultured classes of the country, to aid us in making this magazine the very best of its kind in the educational field.

PUBLISHED BY THE

NEW ENGLAND PUBLISHING CO. BOSTON, MASS.

TRÜBNER & CO., 54 & 56 Ludgate Hill, London.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

THE POETRY OF THE BIBLIOMANIA.*

BY W. E. A. AXON, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE MANCHESTER LITERARY CLUB.

OF BOOKS I sing. Of all that greets the eye,
Or warms the fancy, and delights the heart,
And touches, by a thousand secret springs,
Congenial, the enraptured soul, in shape
Of FOLDED LEAVES IMPRINTED, the coy muse,
Willing, yet anxious, now essays to sing.

DIBDIN.

Love, love is the song which the Poet ever singeth,
Of which the listening world is never weary.

So sings Alexander Smith, but, like many other beautiful and poetical assertions, it requires to be taken *cum grano salis*, for the poets have sung almost of every subject beneath the sun. Not only have they sung of love but of war, of the glories and triumphs, the groans and agonies of the bloody battle-field. The same hand which wrote the "Economy of Love," indited also the "Art of Cookery." The American epic poet, Joel Barlow, not only celebrated his country's glories in the "Columbiad," but also sung the praise of hasty-pudding. Garth sang of the Dispensary, and Tusser of Husbandry; in short, poets have ransacked heaven and earth for the subjects of their rhymes, and have even ventured into the nethermost world.

What wonder, then, that we should find men who have in song expressed the feelings which arise in the mind on entering the place where—

Old books and manuscripts the age command,
Row above row the precious volumes stand,

* Read at the July meeting of the L. A. U. K.

VOL. 5, NO. 7-8.

In every language, and on every theme,
The mind bewildering in an airy dream. †

What wonder that singers should have arisen to interpret the joys of the Bibliomania! The disease is a widespread one, and many of those who have wooed the muse have been more or less infected with it. Scott and Southey were hard and eager book-hunters, and the enthusiasm of Jonathan Oldbuck in his antiquarian raids is only a good-humoured satire on one of the chief passions of the author of Waverley. Look at the noble Abbotsford Library; it is a model of book-hunting energy on many and very different hunting-grounds: here a black-letter romance, there a bundle of pedlar's ballads; here a "dapper Elzevir," there a folio of Aldus or Stephens. That Scott was not amenable to the vulgar reproach of not reading the books which he bought, may be seen from the curious and varied learning which he has thrown into the notes to his varied works. These notes alone, if reprinted, would form a very curious commonplace book. We mention these honoured names to show that the Book Disease is one which infects great minds; all literary men—De Quincey to the contrary notwithstanding—are more or less subject to it. Even Johnson, who was barbarously careless in his usage of books, fully estimated the importance of book-collecting.

† "Review of various Schemes of Happiness."
By Thomas Cook. London: 1846.

"Un bibliophile après tout n'est qu'un homme perfectionné," and the poet who sublimates into song the joys and sorrows of those earnest students of bibliography, the Book-hunters, may claim to stand at the head of the tribe.

"The Book-hunter's Garland" would be a curious addition to our poetical anthologies if it contained all worth preserving on the pleasures of collecting and possessing books; and it may afford a few moments' amusement to indicate some few articles that could not well be omitted from such a collection. We need not occupy the time by quoting those passages from our great authors in which they have spoken of the value and beauty of the love of books, but will confine ourselves solely to the "Poetry of the Bibliomania."

One of the first victims of that dread disease in its more modern form was Dr. John Ferriar, a worthy of whom the cotton metropolis may be justly proud.

His learning and taste are very strikingly shown in his "Illustrations of Sterne"—a collection of interesting essays under a not very attractive title. Among other claims upon our gratitude, Dr. Ferriar is the author of a small pamphlet of fourteen quarto pages; the title is here transcribed—"The Bibliomania, an epistle, to Richard Heber, Esq., by John Ferriar, M. D. Hic, inquis, veto quisquam faxit oletum. Pinget duos angues.—*Pers. Sat. l. l.* 108. London: Printed for T. Cadell, and W. Davies, in the Strand; by J. Haddock, Warrington. 1809."

Our bibliomaniacal poet first paints the woes of the poor collector:—

What wild desires, what restless torments seize
The hapless man, who feels the book disease,
If niggard Fortune cramp his gen'rous mind,
And Prudence quench the Spark by heaven
assign'd!
With wistful glance his aching eyes behold
The Princeps-copy, clad in blue and gold,
Where the tall Book-case, with partition thin,
Displays, yet guards the tempting charms within:

So great Facardin view'd, as sages tell,
Fair Crystalline immur'd in lucid cell.

The picture of destitution is rendered all the more terrible by a glowing description of the pleasures and advantages of the rich collector. Then follows this passage on one of the characteristics of the tribe:—

Or English books, neglected and forgot,
Excite his wish in many a dusty lot:
Whatever trash Midwinter gave to day,
Or Harper's rhiming sons, in paper gray.
At ev'ry auction, bent on fresh supplies,
He cons his Catalogue with anxious eyes:
Where'er the slim Italics mark the page,
Curious and rare his ardent mind engage.
Unlike the Swans, in Tuscan Song display'd,
He hovers eager o'er Oblivion's Shade,
To snatch obscurest names from endless night,
And give Cokain or Fletcher back to light.
In red morocco drest he loves to boast
The bloody murder, or the yelling ghost;
Or dismal ballads, sung to crowds of old,
Now cheaply bought for thrice their weight in gold.
Yet to th' unhonour'd dead be satire just;
Some flow'rs "smell sweet and blossom in their
dust."

'Tis thus ev'n Shirley boasts a golden line,
And Lovelace strikes, by fits, a note divine.
Th' unequal gleams like midnight-lightnings play,
And deepen'd gloom succeeds, in place of day.

And if by this agency some works of merit are rescued from oblivion, if some figures which Time had overturned are reinstated in their proper niches in the temple of literature, shall we not return due honour to those who have performed the kindly office?

Here is another passage, in which the poet sings of the devastations of the cook and her assistants. It may be remarked that Ferriar speaks not of that bugbear of modern authors, the trunk-maker:—

The menial train has proved the Scourge of wit,
Ev'n Omar burnt less Science than the spit;
Earthquakes and wars remit their deadly rage
But ev'ry feast demands some fated page.
Ye Towers of Julius, ye alone remain
Of all the piles that saw our nation's stain,
When Harry's sway oppress the groaning realm,
And Lust and Rapine seiz'd the wav'ring helm;

Then ruffian-hands defaced the sacred fanes,
 Their saintly statues, and their storied panes;
 Then from the chest, with ancient art embost,
 The Penman's pious scrolls were rudely tost;
 Then richest manuscripts, profusely spread,
 The brawny Churl's devouring Oven fed;
 And thence Collectors date the heav'nly ire,
 That wrapt Augusta's domes in sheets of fire.

One more quotation from Dr. Ferriar will suffice. He preaches fatalism in this charming strain:—

Like Poets, born, in vain Collectors strive
 To cross their Fate, and learn the art to thrive.
 Like Cacus, bent to tame their struggling will,
 The tyrant passion drags them backward still:
 Ev'n I, debarr'd of ease, and studious hours,
 Confess, 'mid anxious toil, its lurking pow'rs;
 How pure the joy, when first my hands unfold
 The small rare volume, black with tarnish'd gold!
 The Eye skims restless, like the roving bee,
 O'er flowers of wit, or song, or repartee,
 While sweet as Springs, new-bubbling from the
 stone,
 Glides through the breast some pleasing theme
 unknown.

The perusal of this brochure suggested to Dr. Dibdin the idea of his "Bibliomania," a book still dear to those who are engaged in the pursuit of books.

Dibdin aspired to be not only the historian, but the poet of bibliography. In 1812 he printed a tract of twenty-four pages, containing 554 lines of verse on Bibliography. The edition was restricted to fifty copies. This is amongst the "books I have not seen," and also amongst the "books I should like to see."

Let us now examine a brochure of four pages, and of a different character altogether; and as a sample of bibliomaniacal conviviality I will reproduce this jovial ballad in full.

RATIONAL MADNESS.

A Song, for the Lovers of Curious and Rare Books: adapted to the popular tune of "Liberty Hall."—Only fifty printed for private circulation.

I.

Come, boys, fill your glasses, and fill to the brim,
 Here's the essence of humour, the soul, too, of whim!

Attend and receive (and sure this is no vapour)
 A "hap'worth of wit on a pennyworth of paper."

II.

Strange songs have strange songsters; thus madness to praise,
 A man must be mad ere his voice he can raise;
 By our madness alone, then, without more pretence,
 We'll prove to the world that we're all men of sense!

III.

Those joys which the *Bibliomania* affords
 Are felt and acknowledged by *Dukes* and by *Lords*!
 And the finest estate would be offer'd in vain
 For an *exemplar* bound by the fam'd *Roger Payne*!

IV.

To a proverb goes madness with love hand in hand,
 But *our* senses we yield to a double command:
 The *dear frenzy* in both is first rous'd by fair looks,—
 Here's our sweethearts, my boys! not forgetting
 our books!

V.

Though all ruled by one wish, and though beauty
 is *rare*,
 If we miss a *tall copy*, we find one that's *fair*;
 Our delight may this prove, and though often
 reprinted,
 To one copy alone the impression be stinted.

VI.

By learning ennobled, we're careless of gain!
 Of envy or malice we ne'er know the pain:
 Take away the *world's prize*, we remain still unwept,
 We've our "meadow of margin and river of text."

VII.

Thus our time may we pass with *rare books* and
rare friends,
 Growing wiser and better, till life itself ends:
 And may those who delight not in black-letter lore,
 By some obsolete act be sent from our shore!

VIII.

May some worthy brother his finger soon put
 On a Caxton *unique*, or a Wynkyn *uncut*!
 Yet pardon, I pray, the offense of my pen,—
 May a soft "Pricke of conscience" occur now and
 then!

IX.

Thus bless'd with possessions unrivalled on earth,
 May each coming day to new pleasures give birth!
 And our joys be unmixt and secure to the last,
 If we look to the future or think of the past!
 J. M.

These are the initials of John Major, the publisher of the most magnificent edition of Izaak Walton's "Complete Angler" ever issued from the press. Major was a man of exquisite taste in matters typographical, but the world did not smile on him, and though he bore a brave heart through it all, and wrote and sang jovial songs, of which the above is a specimen, he could not win the favour of Dame Fortune, and at last sought refuge from the storms of adverse fate in the Chester House, where he died on the 9th of January, 1849.*

"The Bibliomaniac Ballad, by Cristofer Valdarfer," we learn from Mr. Olphar Hamst's "Hand-book of Fictitious Names," is a production of Joseph Haslewood.

It is dedicated

To the Roxburghe Club, by way of dedication,
And all black-letter dogs who have passed initiation: These.

And opens thus:—

My late good-natur'd Eame oft would preach
long and sage,
Censure idling of youth, extol virtues of age:
For he lov'd his old acres, old woods, and old rooks,
And his old easy chair, with old wine, and old books.
As he's dead, it were well in his library seat,
Conning technical phrases that he'd oft repeat,
And old printers' names from their colophons catch,
To write life, bibl'ographic:—take scrip of the
sketch.
Though born Georgii Primo he a Caxton would
prize,
'Bove ten full-bottom'd Caxons to curl round his
eyes:
And the spell of black-letter he ne'er thought
absurd,
For Young Bibliomaniacs love Wynkyn the Worde.
In a rebus no lady was half so deep read,
Or statesman with devices e'er crammed so his
head;
He his creed thought unknown, but for Whit-
church would pray,
And in dark Winter's morn, cry: "Arise, it is
Day!"

* *Gentleman's Magazine*, March, 1849, p. 322.

Thus his heart was unbound, as love's Bower gave
room;
Widow Yetsweirt was there, and the widows Joan
Broome,
Joan Wolfe and Joan Orwin, and while soft things
he'd utter,
Of famous Joan Jugge, he would melt for Joan
Butter.

Our last extract shows that even Bibliomaniacs are mortal, and must yield them to the power of Death, who enters the snug library, and strikes them down in the midst of their treasures.

But he's gone:—can one Triplet his memory save,
Can his Bishop interr him? his boys Wal-de-Grave?
With but putting in boards can his spirit be fled?
Why he ne'er got a coffin until he was dead!
Ah, no, with his volumes would tarry his soul,
Could folios, could big belly'd quartos controul,
Or octavus et infra; nay, studios be seen,
With a twelve in morocco, or russia sixteen.
Shade of Paterson, shall his collection disperse,
And one alphabet crush ev'ry class, prose and
verse?
Nor tell all that the *imp.* on fly-leaf can portend?
Nor *imp.* that he hallow'd and no devil would
mend?

This is one of those considerations which must embitter even the pleasantest thoughts of the Book-hunter. That wondrous creation—his library—which he has evoked from the chaos of old book-shops, from a thousand nooks and corners beyond the ken of ordinary mortals, must in process of time return to chaos again.

The magnificent collections of Heber are now but a name. The only remedy is to follow the example of the Right Hon. Thomas Grenville, who left his fine collection to the nation, and so earned the lasting gratitude of the student and book-lovers of all succeeding generations.

Another trifle, of unknown origin, is a description of the Book-worm—the human variety, that is.

The Bokeworme sitteth in his celle,
He studyeth all alone,
And burneth oute the oile,
'Till ye midnight hour is gone.
Then gethe he downe upon his bedde,

Ne mo watch will he a-keepe,
 He layethe his heade on ye pillowe,
 And eke he tryes to sleepe.
 Then swyfte there cometh a vision grimme,
 And greetythe him sleepynge fair,
 And straigthe hee dreameth of grislie dreames,
 And dreads fellowne and rayre.
 His spirit yt swynketh all the daye,
 Still laborethe in the night,
 And flyethe oute among deadlie things,
 And things with tremoure dight.
 And when he riseth in morrowe's prime
 His cheeke lookethe wondrous wyte,
 And his eyne are redde and dimme
 Wyth wasting over night.
 His head dothe ache for want of rest,
 His throate is hot and dry,
 For when he burnethe the midnight oile
 Grim Deathe standethe him by.
 Wherefore, if cravest life to eld
 Ne rede longe uppe at night,
 But go to bed at curfew bell
 And ryse wythe mornynge's lyte. E. B. B.

We know what pleasant memories are associated with the volumes bearing on them the device of the anchor used by the family of Aldus, printers who have achieved enduring fame for the beauty of their typography. Not less pleasant are the associations with the imitation of their device used by William Pickering, the most tasteful of English publishers. The Rev. John Mitford, upon one occasion, wrote a little impromptu, containing allusion to the devices used by several printers, and ending with well-deserved good wishes to William Pickering:

Impromptu. By the Rev. John Mitford.

[Here is Pickering's device.]

"Let your emblems or devices be a dove, or a fish, or a musical lyre, or a naval anchor."

Would you still be safely landed,
 On the *Aldine Anchor* ride;
 Never yet was vessel stranded
 With the *Dolphin* by its side.

Fleet is *Wechel's* flying courser,
 A bold and bridleless steed is he;
 But when winds are piping hoarser,
 The *Dolphin* rides the stormy sea.

Stephens was a noble printer,
 Of knowledge firm he fixt his *Tree*;

But time in him made many a splinter,
 As old *Elzevir* in thee.

Whose name the bold *Digamma* hallows
 Knows how well his page it decks;
 But black it looks as any gallows
 Fitted for poor authors' necks.

Nor time nor envy e'er shall canker
 The sign that is my lasting pride:
 Joy, then, to the *Aldine Anchor*,
 And the *Dolphin* at its side!

To the *Dolphin*, as we're drinking,
 Life, and health, and joy we send;
 A poet once he saved from sinking,
 And still he lives, the poet's friend.

This bit of card-board is now but rarely seen, although it has been reprinted within recent years.

In a recently published volume of verse by Mr. A. Lang, will be found a "Ballade of the Book-hunter":—

In torrid heats of late July,
 In March, beneath the bitter *bise*,
 He book-hunts while the loungers fly,—
 He book-hunts though December freeze;
 In breeches baggy at the knees,
 And heedless of the public jeers,
 For these, for these, he hoards his fees,—
 Aldines, Bodonis, Elzevirs.

No dismal stall escapes his eye,
 He turns o'er tomes of low degrees,
 There soiled romanticists may lie,
 Or Restoration comedies;
 Each tract that flutters in the breeze
 For him is charged with hopes and fears,
 In mouldy novels fancy sees
 Aldines, Bodonis, Elzevirs.

With restless eyes that peer and spy,
 Sad eyes that heed not skies nor trees,
 In dismal nooks he loves to pry,
 Whose motto evermore is *Spes*!
 But ah! the fabled treasure flees;
 Grown rarer with the fleeting years,
 In rich men's shelves they take their ease,—
 Aldines, Bodonis, Elzevirs!

ENVOY.

Prince, all the things that tease and please,—
 Fame, hope, wealth, kisses, cheers and tears,
 What are they but such toys as these—
 Aldines, Bodonis, Elzevirs?*

* "A. Lang. XXII Ballades in Blue China." London: 1880.

THE PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

BY W. E. FOSTER, PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE removal of our library is in every sense a change for the better. As regards space, we have nearly three times as much as before. As to light, we have an almost unbroken window frontage on one street, making our reading-room one of the lightest of places, and nearly as much on the rear street, lighting our book-room, etc. As to air, we have admirable facilities for ventilation. Besides this, we have escaped the annoyance of both dust and noise, being on a quiet and pleasant street, yet only a few doors from the most frequented part of the principal shopping street, and easily accommodated by all the horse-car lines.

We occupy the entire ground floor (90 x 96 ft.) of the "English and classical school" building on Snow street, known as "Mowry and Goff's," erected in 1875, at a cost of \$50,000. The public portion comprises the entrance, and a room 78 x 40, admirably lighted. Three-quarters of this space is set apart for a reading-room, with its thirteen tables, and with shelves containing the books of reference on two sides of the space. The other quarter is the waiting-room, containing seats, desks for consulting the catalogues, and the bulletin-boards. Our delivery-space, eight feet wide, runs the entire length of the building (with the exception of a few feet at one end), and communicates in front with the public waiting-room and reading-room, from which it is separated only by a long counter; and in the rear with the book-room (40 x 55 ft.) by five large arches cut in the wall; also with the librarian's room, work-room, etc. In the book-room the space is laid out for thirty book-cases (three rows of ten), and, of these, twenty-four are now in position. In this, as in the former location, the books have been so placed in relation

to the delivery-desk as to result most fully in "compact stowage to save space, and short distances to save time," as indicated by Mr. Winsor. [Government Report, p. 466-67.] Our present number of volumes is 17,700, and, by using the space available in rooms other than the book-room proper, we can easily accommodate 40,000 on this floor.

We take especial satisfaction in the facilities we now have for such features of our work as the bulletins and reference-lists. In the corridor, just as one enters, is a large bulletin with a diagram and explanations, showing the location of each department. Close by the desk where the applicant registers for the right to use the library, is another, explaining fully the way "to find a book." Next to it is the bulletin where the daily announcements of "latest books" are posted. On the other side of the entrance, the whole wall-space is filled up by thirteen panels for bulletins (the card-catalogue being underneath). In the first of these is the daily bulletin of periodical literature, stating the dates of the "periodicals received this day," with special mention of interesting articles to be found in them. [See specimens below.] The next two are for any special or unusual purposes. For instance, "Books for summer reading," "Recent pamphlets added to the library," and a sheet on which such results of the census are posted as may appear in the columns of newspapers (the population of this city, of this state, of the different states, and of the chief cities). The other ten panels are for the "Daily notes on current events and topics."

The special reference-lists, now numbering sixty, are arranged in five binders, namely: "History," "Philosophical science," "Art," "The college essay subjects,"

and "Miscellaneous." These are fastened to the counter in the reading-room. Here are also to be consulted a manuscript list of our 600 pamphlets, an alphabetical list of the titles of the periodicals, and a copy of the *Literary News*, which we consider of practical use in suggesting lines of reading. A friend of the library has printed, at his own expense, a "Manual of the reading-room," in which are given (1) an alphabetical list of the reference books placed on open shelves there, with hints on their use; (2) the periodical list; (3) statements as to the consultation of government and other official publications, at the library; (4) notes on the use of the pamphlets, and (5) a statement as to the "study-room," in which readers may have writing materials, and be able to use books without interruption by others. Copies of this manual will be found on the tables of the reading-room, thus directing the attention of readers to the various ways in which the library may be made serviceable for reference.

We re-opened the library to the public on Tuesday, July 6, and have since been receiving the congratulations of our readers, who are exceedingly pleased at the improvement. With the close of the summer vacation, we shall take a fresh hold on the various details of co-operation with the schools.

SPECIMEN NOTES ON CURRENT PERIODICALS.

July 21.

Illustrated London News, July 10.*Spectator*, July 10.*Harper's Young People*, July 20.

The *Illustrated London News* has more illustrations relating to the centennial anniversary of the Sunday-school.

Harper's Young People has an illustrated article on the naval fight of the Serapis.

The *Spectator* has articles on "The Tay bridge reports," and on "The Swiss democracy," both of which are of value. There is an interesting review of M. Renouf's Hibbert Lectures, recently added to this library.

July 29.

British Quarterly Review, July.*Littell's Living Age*, July 31.*Frank Leslie's Weekly*, August 7.*Harper's Weekly*, August 7.*The Nation*, July 29.

One of the most interesting articles on journalism is that in the *Nation*, on "English journalism," which gives much curious and valuable information about the *personnel* and management of the *London Times*.

Harper's Weekly has a view of Lincoln Cathedral.

Frank Leslie's has illustrations of the accident in the Hudson River Tunnel, and of the Egyptian obelisk just received at New York.

The *British Quarterly* is the first of the July quarterlies received, and has an article, by J. Robinson, on "Evolution, viewed in relation to theology" (p. 42-51); and one on "The general election" (p. 89-99).

Littell's has an article on Sterne, reprinted from the *Cornhill Magazine* (p. 290-302).

DANJOU'S SCHEME OF A UNIVERSAL BIBLIOGRAPHY.

BY W. E. A. AXON, MANCHESTER.

IN a paper on the Universal Catalog, which appears in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* (3: 175), reference is made to a project of the kind by M. Danjou. The information given about his scheme was admittedly second-hand in character. The pamphlet in which it is explained is rare, and no copy had ever fallen into my hands. Since then, by the kindness of

Mr. R. C. Christie, M. A., the Chancellor of the Diocese of Manchester, I have had an opportunity of reading it, and a brief notice of its contents may not be without interest. The title is, "Exposé succinct d'un nouveau système d'organisation des bibliothèques publiques, par un bibliothécaire. Montpellier: typographie et lithographie de Boehm, 1845."

It is a well-printed octavo pamphlet, extending to 29 pages. It will be seen that the work is anonymous, or rather pseudonymous, but the name of Danjou has been written on the cover, and this corresponds with the indication given by Quérard, who styles him an "*ancien employé*" of the National Library of France. To catalog, preserve and communicate, he considers the three branches of library economy, and the first he regards as indispensable for the accomplishment of the other two. He then laments that the French government is without any complete inventory of the contents of the public libraries under its control. Of the chaos into which the National Library—then the *bibliothèque en roi*—had fallen, he gives a graphic but melancholy picture. The catalog was at least 600,000 volumes in arrear. He says that Van Praet was able, by his prodigious memory, to remember where he placed a book in the provisional classification of his own devising, but he had not intrusted the clue to the labyrinth to any of his assistants, and at his death the utmost confusion ensued. M. Danjou then enters into elaborate details to show that to catalog the library would necessitate the labor of forty experts for ten years, and would cost 1,200,000 francs, that all loans of books would have to cease, and the place be closed to the public for two years. Why not, he suggests, make a universal bibliography, to serve once for all? Ten years of reflection and inquiry had convinced him that this ought to be done, and could be done. The method he proposes is that a committee of men, learned in the various branches of human knowledge, should be established in connection with the Ministry of Public Instruction. The committee should be divided, for the purposes of its work, into five classes, of theology, jurisprudence, history, science and arts, and literature. The members of the subdivisions should again classify their

work, each man undertaking to prepare the bibliography of the subject or subjects with which he was most familiar. M. Danjou refers to the many existing bibliographies of special subjects as proving what can be done by individual exertion, and asserts that the most important bibliographical works have not been produced by librarians. He sees no difficulty in the collection of the titles, but a great deal in having them properly classified. Classification is a point he strongly insists upon. Once made, this *catalogue méthodique* would serve for all the libraries of France. An annual supplement would keep it abreast with the progress of literature, and at the end of twenty years these supplements could be melted down and united. He estimates that the cost of preparing the catalog would be a million francs, and is sanguine enough to suppose that the cost of printing would be defrayed by the sale of the work to the public libraries of Europe. The *Bibliographie Universelle* would show the riches of each library, and it would also show in what departments it required strengthening. After this short outline of M. Danjou's scheme, his final sentence must be quoted at length: "Si ce plan de réorganisation des Bibliothèques soulève quelques objections, je crois pouvoir y répondre; si on me demande des développements plus étendus, je suis prêt à les fournir; si, enfin, l'indifférence accueille cet opuscule et le laisse dans l'obscurité qui couvre son auteur, je m'en consolerai par la pensée que j'ai satisfait à un besoin impérieux de ma conscience, et obéi au désir sincère d'être utile à mon pays. *Habent sua fata libelli.*"

The book has had the fortune foreshadowed in these last lines, which are not without a certain pathos. It may be that the seed-thoughts that fell unheeded a generation ago in France may yet bear fruit, though on a foreign soil.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

JULY-AUGUST.

Communications for the JOURNAL, exchanges, and editors' copies, should be addressed EDITORS LIBRARY JOURNAL, 13 & 15 Park Row (P. O. Box 4295), New York, except material for special departments, which should be forwarded direct to departmental editors.

Library catalogues, reports, regulations, sample blanks, and other library appliances, should be sent to MELVIL DUN, Sec. A. L. A., General Offices American Library Association, 33 Hawley Street (P. O. Box 260), Boston.

European matter may be sent to the care of H. R. TREDDER, Sec. L. A. U. K., Athenaeum Club, Pall Mall, S. W., London.

Remittances and orders for subscriptions and advertisements should be addressed to THE LIBRARY JOURNAL, 13 & 15 Park Row (P. O. Box 4295), New York. Remittances should be made by draft on New York, P. O. order, or registered letter.

The Editors are not responsible for the views expressed in contributed articles or communications, nor for the style of spelling, capitalization, etc., in articles whose authors request adherence to their own styles.

Subscribers are entitled to advertise books wanted, or duplicates for sale and exchange, at the nominal rate of 10 cents per line (regular rate, 25 cents); also to advertise for situations or assistance to the extent of five lines free of charge.

THE announcement of the discontinuance of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, as an independent issue, has called forth so general and sincere an expression of regret (not without promises of new support) that the undersigned has decided to complete the fifth volume in its original shape. In thus undertaking to continue the publication, at a probable increasing loss to himself, the publisher has been guided by his desire to give full satisfaction to his subscribers, even to the extent of removing impressions and feelings as unfounded as undeserved. His own devotion to the cause represented, together with the satisfaction derived from the warm protestations of the true friends of the JOURNAL, reduce, morally at least, the resumed burden. Should his action be productive of renewed efforts of others on behalf of the JOURNAL, it is still possible that this sacrifice may prove a reward. Both editors and publisher will not fail in turning the new lease of life to good purpose, with a view to securing a permanent extension. Before the close of the volume a plan will be submitted for a new series on a reduced basis, and at a subscription price which will enable the smallest library to subscribe. This will necessitate the adoption of a more condensed and less expensive form of publication. But the JOURNAL, confining itself to essentially practical matters, may become as use-

ful and successful an institution as, within its province, is the *Publishers' weekly*, which, since its foundation, has had no higher ambition than to aid its constituents in their daily work.

The protracted consultations with the friends of the JOURNAL, and the serious consideration due to the step taken, have caused so much delay in the preparation for publication as to render necessary a double number, covering the months of July and August. Possibly it may be found expedient to resort to the issue of double numbers until the close of the volume.

The consolidation with the *Publishers' weekly* will cease with the present issue.

F. LEYPOLDT.

THE above announcement appeared in the *Publishers' weekly*, for August 7. It is repeated here in order to establish the connecting link in the annals of the JOURNAL in its own columns. The current volume will be concluded without any material change beyond that of editorship at the New York office. Being unable to replace the invaluable services of Mr. Bowker, his successor begs to ask the indulgence of the friends of the JOURNAL for inevitable short-comings during "the interregnum." He will be happy to resign this position, which is one of expedience rather than choice, should he succeed in maturing a plan for the permanent continuation of the JOURNAL. For the furthering of this end, he makes an urgent appeal to all those who have library interests at heart to give him the aid of their experience and counsel. It is proposed that a series of questions be submitted in the next issue, with a request for expression of opinion. Such exchange of opinion, it is to be hoped, will furnish material for the drawing up of a definite programme, which, in a subsequent number, will be finally submitted for the purpose of testing the question of support.

THE following are a few suggestive questions which require immediate consideration:

1. What features (contents) of the JOURNAL within its present scope *cannot* be dispensed with?
2. Which could be dispensed with, or retained in modified form?
3. What new features can be suggested?
4. Would the omission of ephemeral matter (news proper) be a loss?
5. Would a quarterly issue be sufficient?
6. Is any change in shape (size of paper) desirable? What?

Similar questions and suggestions are now in order. Will those librarians who, with us, would keenly feel the failure of maintaining an independent journal of their own, give this matter a little

time and thought, and aid our earnest efforts by a full and prompt response?

ALTHOUGH at this juncture the value of economy is fully appreciated by the publisher, he wishes to have it understood that the economy of matter in this double number was not one of choice, but that all the material on hand, and some of "long standing," has been given without curtailing. Almost all the articles and contributions are of an essentially practical character. We confess to one great exception, but this, we take a delight in saying, is a "luxury" in which we indulge without remorse. If ever we needed comfort for the sting of reproach and the "Pricke of Conscience" on ground of extravagance of printing, it is now, and we have it—before "Prudence quench the spark"—in still holding a "meadow of margin" for the "Poetry of Bibliomania," as a fit farewell from "all that greets the eye or warms the fancy."

THE article in this issue from E. G. Allen, of 12 Tavistock Row, London, serves as text for a little sermon. The book trade can often teach librarians practical things from their own experience. The librarians can often be of service to the trade. We desire, above all things, to develop and strengthen the present tendency to recognize the book trade and library profession as parts of one common work, supplying the public with reading. To do away with every semblance of rivalry and work heartily together would be a source of profit, as well as pleasure, to both sides. We believe librarians will be ready to meet advances in this direction heartily, and we are specially glad of this article from a book-seller so widely and favorably known to American libraries. We commend this article for crowding the largest amount of information into the smallest compass. Give us more, brother book-sellers.

ALL those who particularly value the "Reference Lists on Special Topics" are invited to lend their aid in the completion and revision of Mr. Foster's List on the United States Constitution, begun in the June number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, and continued in this issue, and kindly report any corrections or essential omissions to Mr. W. E. Foster, Providence Public Library. The immediate object is to supply a certain demand for a number of copies of the list, printed separately, for distribution among students, and it is desirable that the list should be as complete as possible. We avail ourselves of this opportunity to make it a test whether there are enough libraries that, following the praiseworthy example of the Providence Public Library, would circulate such lists among their

readers, provided they could be supplied at a nominal expense above cost of paper and print. Should this suggestion meet with any encouragement, other lists on important topics would follow in similar manner. Mr. Foster has kindly offered his services with the understanding that, considering the inadequate resources of the Providence Public Library, such lists should, before printing in separate form, be submitted through the LIBRARY JOURNAL for the purpose of final completion and revision by those specially interested in, or familiar with, the topics selected. An expression of opinion is solicited.

IN the bibliographical department will be found a reprint, from the *Academy*, of Mr. Leopold Seligmann's protest against the publication of an article in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, which appeared in the May number, under the heading, "German libraries and librarians." Only in the light of protest against the publication—viz.: reflecting on the discretion of the responsible editors—can we take notice of it editorially. The translator of the article, Mr. G. F. Arnold, declining to enter into any controversy, it is not within our province to defend the views presented. Should the writer himself deem fit to reply to Mr. Seligmann, the columns of the LIBRARY JOURNAL will be open to him, just as they were open to Dr. Krehl (see June number), and as they would have been open to Mr. Seligmann, had he not preferred to "have recourse" to another "foreign journal." In answer to his protest, we beg to state:

1. That, according to the rules of the JOURNAL, printed in every number, "The editors are not responsible for the views expressed in contributed articles or communications."
2. That, according to the statement of the translator, "Mr. Seligmann is mistaken in the supposition expressed in the first sentence, that the letter 'was never meant for the public eye.' It was the special wish of the writer that the views presented in his letter should be made public in the columns of the LIBRARY JOURNAL."

FOR the following, the New York editor is personally responsible. He refers to the peculiar "shrug" alluded to in the original article. Making due allowance for numerous exceptions, he applies this peculiarity even more sweepingly to the German scholar in general, whether doctor, professor, *Rath* or librarian. And the type of this class is strikingly represented by the very writer of the article in the *Academy*. The uncalled-for flings at American librarians and readers by the latter are in evidence of this assertion. Possibly the views presented in the article in the LIBRARY

JOURNAL were too sweeping and severe, but there is at least one other authority in Germany which indorses them without reserve. The *Magazin für die Literatur des Auslandes* (July 24), a representative journal of forty-nine years' standing, now edited by Mr. Eduard Engel, qualifies the article in question, without expressing any surprise at its appearance in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, as "*Ein für deutsche Bibliothekarbeamte sehr beherzenswerther Artikel, von einem sachverständigen deutschen Verfasser*," commenting on it with laconic terseness, "*Drastisch, aber leider wahr!*"

F. L.

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE.

SEVERAL of those most prominently interested in the conference express a preference for February, rather than December. The reasons given are mostly of press of work coming so near the close of the year. By February orders for periodicals are off, sets made up and sent to bindery, reports and accounts made up and audited, and things generally set to rights. It is also thought that the excitement of the presidential campaign will be more thoroughly out of the way two months later, and present appearances point to the choice of the later of the two dates suggested by Mr. Spofford. Some members of the Library Committee of Congress, since consulted, feel sure that February will be the better month, and that the short session before the holidays will leave no room for as successful a meeting as we must have in the national capital.

By the issue of the next JOURNAL, the Executive Board will doubtless fix the date and appoint committees on program. A general expression of opinion is desired on this, as on all questions affecting the common interests of the A. L. A.

Address all letters to the Sec. A. L. A., P. O. Box 260, Boston.

UNITED KINGDOM ASSOCIATION.

MR. H: R: TEDDER has addressed to the Council of the L. A. U. K. the following letter:

ATHENÆUM CLUB, Pall Mall,
LONDON, S. W., July 1, 1880.

GENTLEMEN: I regret to have to inform you that I am at last forced, very unwillingly, to resign my post as one of your honorary secretaries. From the foundation of the Library Association to the present time, it has been a great pleasure to me to have been able to devote all my leisure to the work and interests of the Association, but duties connected with my own library and other undertakings, will make it impossible for me to give the same attention in future to the affairs of the Associ-

ation, and I therefore feel it my duty to retire in favor of some less busy member.

I remain, gentlemen, yours very faithfully,

HENRY R: TEDDER.

The Council of the Library Association of the United Kingdom.

This letter having been read at the meeting of the Council on July 2, the following resolution was unanimously passed:

"Resolved, That the Council receive the resignation of Mr. Tedder with the utmost possible regret, and tender him their sincerest thanks for the invaluable services rendered by him to the Association, from its foundation until now."

Mr. Tedder's resignation did not come before the Council unexpectedly, as he had given unofficial notice of his intention at the June meeting. Although Mr. Tedder finds it impossible to continue to act as Secretary, we believe that he will, as a private member, continue to take an active and useful part in the work of the Association. The nomination of a colleague with Mr. E. C. Thomas, the other honorary secretary, has been deferred.

Arrangements for the approaching annual meeting at Edinburgh are in progress, and an influential local committee are making active preparations to insure an interesting meeting. The following gentlemen form the committee:—Principal Sir Alexander Grant, Bart.; Professor P. G. Tait; Professor A. J. G. Mackay; Bailie Colston; Dr. H. D. Littlejohn; Treasurer Harrison; Dr. William Smith; Dr. G. W. Balfour; Mr. A. Buchan; Mr. T. C. Archer; Vice-Dean J. A. Crichton; Mr. A. Blair; Mr. W. Nelson; Hon. J. W. Moncrieff, W. S.; Mr. C. G. Macrae, W. S.; Mr. J. Henry, S. S. C.; Treasurer, Mr. W. F. Dickson, W. S.; Joint Secretaries, Mr. T. G. Law, Librarian Signet Library; Mr. W. Black, Librarian S. S. C. Library.

The report of the meeting at Manchester, edited by Messrs. Tedder and Thomas, will shortly be in the hands of members. The delay in the production of the volume has been caused by the preparation of some interesting descriptions of the libraries visited by the Association on that occasion.

Mr. Reginald Hanson, a member of the L. A. U. K., and late Chairman of the Library Committee of the Corporation of London, was on the 1st inst. elected Alderman of London for the Ward of Billingsgate.

JULY MONTHLY MEETING.

The ninth monthly meeting of the third year of the Association was held at the London Institution on Friday, July 2, 1880, at 8 p. m., Mr. R. Harrison, treasurer, in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed as correctly entered, the chairman called upon the secretary to read a paper by Mr. W. E. A. Axon, entitled "The Poetry of the Bibliomania." (See p. 199.)

In the course of the ensuing discussion, Mr. B. R. Wheatley said that he possessed a copy of Dibdin's poem; it purported to be the first book of a poem in six books, and principally related to the sales of rare books by the principal book-sellers of the time. Mr. Tedder regretted that Dibdin had fallen into such disrepute, but he unfortunately wrote in a pert style, scarcely befitting the dignity of his subject. His great knowledge of bibliography could not be denied. Mr. Harrison mentioned that the Roxburgh sale, so famous in the annals of bibliography, took place in the house next door to that now occupied by the London Library.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Axon for his interesting paper was then carried unanimously.

Among the donations laid upon the table was a copy of the Catalogue of the Library of the Pharmaceutical Society, presented by Mr. J. W. Knapman, the compiler.

The following official notice, dated July 21, 1880, has been addressed to the members and friends of the Association:

"Dear Sir:—The third annual meeting of our Association will be held at Edinburgh, in the rooms of the Royal Society, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the 5th, 6th and 7th of October. The libraries of Scotland will naturally engage our particular notice; and it is proposed to devote special attention to the subjects of Classification and Binding. The Council will be glad to receive offers of papers at once; and also to learn if you propose to attend. Further arrangements will be duly announced. Yours faithfully,

"ERNEST C. THOMAS, Secretary,
2, South Square, Gray's Inn,
London, W. C.

"N. B.—The Committees (of the whole Association) on special subjects will meet on Friday next, and on the first and third Fridays of August, at 7 p. m., at the London Institution, to consider their reports."

In accordance with this notice the Special Committee (of the whole Association) on Title-Entries presented to the Council a report embracing a code of catalogue rules. This report has been printed, and will be submitted for final action at the Edinburgh meeting, and will appear (with any amendments then made) in the LIBRARY JOURNAL containing the transactions of that meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS.

OPEN SHELVES AT BROWN UNIVERSITY.

LIBRARY, BROWN UNIVERSITY,

PROVIDENCE, June 24, 1880.

I HAVE just finished my usual annual examination of the library, and I am happy to report that not a single book is missing. Very few books, upon comparing them with the shelf lists, were found misplaced. This is an argument in favor of open shelves. Indeed, my professional experience of nearly two-score years convinces me that college libraries especially, to be really useful, should have open alcoves and open shelves, to which professors and students may have free access. Very few persons, as President Eliot happily remarked at our conference last summer, can readily consult a modern card catalogue, and no persons can use it so readily as they can the books themselves. These, when properly classified and arranged, are better by far than the best of catalogues, whether printed or otherwise.

Our library, I may add, contains 53,000 v., and about 17,000 pam. These have been accumulating for a century. The library building, fully described in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, v. 3, p. 117, has a capacity for 150,000 v., is circular in form, with octagonal wings on the east, west and north sides. Each wing has 24 alcoves, *i. e.*, eight on each floor. The books are classified on a very simple plan, the west wing being reserved for theology and history; the north for philosophy, science and the arts, and the east for belles-lettres. Each alcove is numbered, and over the numbers are printed in gilt letters the subdivisions, as follows: West wing—Biblical literature, theology, religious history, biography, voyages and travels, American history, English history, general history. North wing—jurisprudence, political science, philosophy, natural history, medical science, useful and fine arts, mathematics, chemistry and physics. East wing—bibliography, philology, Greek and Latin classics, collections, English and American literature, foreign literature, general periodicals (special periodicals distributed in the different alcoves according to the subjects of which they treat).

During the past year the circulation was 8,553 v. The library is used, however, more for reference than for circulation. The number of additions for the year has been 2,163 v. and 1,740 pam. This includes a bequest of 712 books on botany, made by the late Col. Stephen T. Olney, of Providence, who also left \$10,000 to be added to the library fund, which is now \$37,500.

REUBEN A. GUILD.

METROPOLITAN FREE LIBRARIES
ASSOCIATION.

THE object of the Association is to promote the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts by parishes and districts within the metropolitan area of London. It consists of members paying a yearly subscription of 5s. or upward.

The first annual meeting of the Association was held on Friday, July 16, 1880, at the rooms of the Royal Asiatic Society, Albemarle St., London, Mr. Thomas Hughes, Q. C., being chairman. The report of the council was to the following effect:

The report of the late Metropolitan Free Libraries Committee, presented to the public meeting held in April, 1879, stated that their attention had been called to the urgent need of consolidating the Public Libraries Acts for England and of amending them in various particulars, and that they proposed to invite the co-operation of their parliamentary members for those purposes. The council of the Association, in succeeding to the functions of the late committee, considered the fulfillment of this promise to be the first of their duties, and, on consulting those members of Parliament who are upon the council, they were assured of their willingness to promote the passing of a new act, whenever the condition of public business offered an opportunity. Soon afterward the council had to congratulate themselves on receiving the spontaneous co-operation of the Library Association of the United Kingdom—a body in which nearly every important library in the kingdom is represented. At the annual meeting of that Association, held at Manchester in October, 1879, a paper on the consolidation and amendment of the Public Libraries Acts for England was read by your honorary secretary, while a particular defect in the acts formed the subject of a separate paper by Mr. G. L. Campbell, of the Wigan Public Library Committee. The result of these papers was that the Library Association passed an unanimous resolution instructing their own council to promote the introduction of a new bill into Parliament at the earliest opportunity. The councils of the two associations accordingly agreed to work together. A bill for consolidating and amending the Public Libraries Acts for England has been drafted, and active steps are being taken to obtain its introduction into Parliament early next session, and to enlist influential support in its favor. During the past year, another London parish has been polled on the question of adopting the acts. A public meeting of the rate-payers of Camberwell approved their adoption by a considerable majority, but this resolution was rescinded on a poll by a majority of about two to

one. The Rev. Dr. Charles Rogers, who took the leading part in this movement, pledged its supporters to ask the vestry to limit the rate to $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the pound, and it was understood that board-schools would be available for the establishment of branch-libraries and reading-rooms. But, despite such favorable conditions and the unwearied exertions of Dr. Rogers, no surprise whatever can be felt at this result. In every parish a large section of the rate-payers belong to a class who are sufficiently prosperous to borrow from a circulating library what books they want, and such persons, when not unwilling to vote for the adoption of the acts by means of a voting-paper filled in at their own houses, will, nevertheless, rarely trouble themselves to go to a polling-station to support a measure from which they do not expect personal benefit. As the Metropolitan Free Libraries Committee pointed out a year ago, only one-quarter of the rate-payers of Hackney and Whitechapel came to the poll on this question, whereas at Richmond, where the votes were taken by voting-papers, under the act of 1877, nearly three-fifths of the rate-payers voted, giving a majority of nearly two to one in favor of the adoption of the acts. Accordingly, while the council gave to the movement in Camberwell all such help as was in their power, by the supply of printed information for rate-payers, they ceased to entertain any strong hopes of success on hearing that no effort would be made to procure the adoption of the voting-paper system, and their anticipations were verified by the fact that only about one-eleventh of the Camberwell rate-payers came to the poll. A movement for the adoption of the acts has been set on foot by influential inhabitants of the parish of St. Pancras, and several district meetings have been held in its support. The council will shortly be able to place in the hands of each member a very full statistical return, prepared by the Library Association, of all libraries established under the acts.

By the treasurer's accounts, it appeared that the receipts during the year had been £34 18s. 6d., and expenditure (chiefly for stationery, printing and postages) £29 os. 2d.

After some remarks by the chairman, secretary and treasurer, on the work of the Association, the following council for the forthcoming year were elected:

President, the Bishop of London; Vice-Presidents, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Edmond G. P. Fitzmaurice, M. P., Lord Aberdare, Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M. P., F. R. S., M. E. Grant Duff, Esq., M. P., W. Spottiswoode, Esq., Pres. R. S.; Members of Council in Ordinary, Hon. E. Lyulph Stanley, Sir W. Frederick

Pollock, Bart., Sir Edmund H. Currie, Rev. S. A. Barnett, M. A., W. C. Cartwright, Esq., M. P., T. Cave, Esq., M. P., Israel Davis, Esq., M. A., Prof. H. Fawcett, M. P., Dr. J. H. Gladstone, F. R. S., Rev. Septimus C. H. Hansard, M. A., Frederic Harrison, Esq., M. A., Robert Harrison, Esq., James Heywood, Esq., F. R. S., J. R. Hollond, Esq., John Holms, Esq., M. P., Thomas Hughes, Esq., Q. C., Prof. W. Stanley Jevons, F. R. S., Prof. Leone Levi, F. S. A., Prof. Henry Morley, A. J. Mundella, Esq., M. P., Henry Richard, Esq., M. P., Rev. Dr. James H. Rigg, Rev. William Rogers, M. A., Anthony Trollope, Esq., Edward J. Watherston, Esq.; Treasurer, Henry R. Tedder, Esq., F. S. A., Librarian of the Athenæum Club, Pall Mall, S. W.; Secretary, Edward B. Nicholson, Esq., M. A., Librarian of the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, E. C.; Bankers, Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie & Co., 1 Pall Mall East, S. W. A cordial vote of thanks to the chairman was unanimously passed, and the meeting adjourned.

ORIGIN OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

MR. CHARLES F. BENNET, writing from England to the *Boston Advertiser*, says:

"In a recent slip from one of the Boston journals I read that 'the contest as to whom belongs the honor of being considered the founder of the Boston Public Library, is again up for discussion.' Will you permit me respectfully to state that, during the first year of the mayoralty of the then John P. Bigelow, I was at home in the city of Boston, on friendly terms with the mayor, intimate with his amiable son, Prescott, now deceased. The establishment of a public library was several times the subject of a conversation between us, and finally the determined resolve on the part of Mayor Bigelow was taken to make a beginning. In the City Hall he had prepared, in a spare room, rough deal shelves, or bunks, awkward in shape, but answering every purpose for the first very miscellaneous collection—contributions by his own hands from his own library.

"Having had many years' experience, and possessing a knowledge of books, and leisure time, Mr. Bigelow asked me to assist him, which I volunteered to do cheerfully. A sort of committee from the council was formed, and on several occasions met in the afternoon to discuss matters, and I made records of the doings (which were signed at each successive meeting) in a small quarto 'account-book,' which cost half a dollar; it answered every purpose for the infantile business we had to do. Bigelow was hopeful and in earnest

about the matter. Contributions were made by several persons, among them the Hon. Abbott Lawrence, and others whose names I cannot at this moment recall any more than the embryo committee. I do recollect that a good deal of what I styled literary lumber was tumbled into the wooden bunks.

"I have once or twice furnished these particulars to Bostonians, asking for information as to that first record book, which ought to be in existence in the archives of the library, and would substantiate the fact that John P. Bigelow was the real, *bona fide* founder of the Boston Public Library. I have never received a satisfactory answer. If Prescott Bigelow now lived, he could bear witness to this record, and probably give information as to what became of that first record book, which is the historical record of the first steps and transactions ever made to form a public library for the citizens of Boston. To Ticknor, Everett, Bates, Greenough, Green, Jewett and others, who have devoted so much time, talent and money to build up a model institution, all honor is due; but I renewedly assert and claim that the conception, birth and infancy thereof are due to Hon. John P. Bigelow, an old and faithful servant of Massachusetts and of Boston."

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BUILDING.

THE following is the full text of the act, approved June 8, to provide additional accommodations for the Library of Congress:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a joint select committee, consisting of three Senators and three members of the House of Representatives, shall have power to employ, as soon as may be, at the expense of the United States, three persons of suitable skill and attainments, who, or a majority of whom, shall, with the approval of said committee, carefully examine and consider what practicable and beneficial changes can be made in and of the Capitol building in the District of Columbia, for the better accommodation of the Houses of Congress and of the Congressional Library, having in view especially the need of better ventilation, light and exposure to the open air of the legislative halls, and the convenience of communication between them, and between them and the Library, and the need of greater space and better arrangement thereof for the Library. They shall, if they find any mode or modes of accomplishing the ends aforesaid practicable and beneficial, cause proper plans, designs and estimates of cost to be made thereof, and submit the same to said committee, which shall report the same to

Congress at the earliest practicable time. And said committee shall in any case make a full report on the subject, and especially whether such mode of providing for the Library is preferable to the erection of a separate building for that purpose.

SEC. 2. That said joint select committee is also authorized and directed at the same time to examine the question of a site outside the Capitol for the Library of Congress, and report to Congress what locations would be most suitable for the Library, and afford the highest advantages for its future growth and permanent accommodation, and also, in the case of each site, the probable cost of the same and of the building.

SEC. 3. The sum of five thousand dollars, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purposes named in this act, which shall be paid on vouchers approved by said committee.

The committee consists of Senators Voorhees, Kernan and Morrill, and Representatives Geddes, Cook and Claflin. Under this act, the committee has appointed Edward Clark, architect of the Capitol, Alex. R. Esty, of Boston, and I. L. Smithmeyer, of Washington, as the architects to prepare plans, estimates, etc., and they are to report by Oct. 1st.

The bill at least bids fair to clear out of the way the chronic obstacle which has obstructed all former attempts to get relief—the notion that this great Library of the United States can somehow or other be provided for by building a bulge on to the Capitol. There is no doubt that the joint committee, as appointed, is in favor of a separate library building.

WIRE-SEWN BOOKS.

THIS, from an Exeter librarian, appears in *The [London] Book-seller*:—"Probably many librarians will be unable to agree with 'W. T.' as to the excellence of wire-sewing in books, in the present condition of that art. Whatever perfection may be possible to it, the writer opines it can hardly be said just now to surpass thread-sewing: the flexibility of the latter is wanting to it, and the security of the cross tapes; the brittleness of the backs is often brought out extremely, and the normal treatment to which circulation subjects them, in our experience, sends back many a detachment with broken backs, the strain on the glued muslin from the unbending hooks being so great. This evidence can hardly be exceptional, will doubtless be borne out by other librarians, and surely calls us to move an amendment in wire-sewing and its con-

comitants, or an unconditional return to the former thread of business."

Another correspondent writes:—"I should be glad to see every book wire-sewn; they are in every way superior to those sewn by thread. In my library the wire-sewn books are in good condition, not a section or a leaf started, while those that are thread-sewn and have had an equal amount of wear are all to pieces. Doubtless many other librarians could speak in the same favorable manner as to the efficiency of this method of sewing, and so influence the wholesale bookbinders to give it a fair trial."

[There seem to be two sides to this question—one important enough to deserve careful attention from all librarians. We call for American experience and testimony on the value of wire-sewing.

M. D.]

DETERIORATION OF BINDINGS.

IN addition to the cause assigned for the decay of the leather employed for the binding of books in public libraries—that it is an effect of the combustion of illuminating gas in libraries—may not the following three reasons be appropriately added as among probable causes, which are worthy of consideration? It would be strange if there were only one single cause for this deterioration.

1. The modern methods of tanning do not give us leather as durable in itself for book-binding purposes as was the leather tanned by the old processes, which processes lasted from three months to two years. If the goat-skins of Turkey are recognized as the most durable of the leathers employed for binding books, may it not be owing to the fact that the modern chemical appliances for hastening the tanning process have not been introduced into the Turkish empire? The sulphur found in the leather used in library bindings may be the result, in part, of the use of the sulphide of sodium in tanning, as described in "Ure's Dictionary," in the Supplement of 1878.

2. The custom of using in book-binding split skins, whereby one skin is made to perform the service of two, induces a corresponding want of strength. Books bound with such skins, without the slightest use of or handling of them, after standing upon the shelves a few years, may be found to be clinging to their covers solely by the thread which passes through the boards, the book having drawn away and sunk down from the leather simply by its own weight.

3. The gases escaping from hot-air furnaces cannot fail to produce a marked effect upon book-bindings. These gases escape into the hot-air

chamber through the imperfectly cemented joints of the stove or fire-pot, and also through the pores of the super-heated iron itself. These facts are explained in full in Mr. G. Derby's *Inquiry into the influence of Anthracite*. Boston, 1868. A heating furnace is delivering its heated air continuously into a library, night and day, for more than half the months of the year in our Northern States. If the deleterious effects of the combustion of illuminating gas in libraries must be recognized, which gas is burned only for a comparatively short time in a day, then certainly the gases which so surely escape from these hot-air furnaces must be regarded as the source of an equal, if not a greater amount of injury. I make no allusion to the damaging effects liable to result from the extreme heat and the dryness produced by these furnaces in the galleries of libraries, because that consideration has already been introduced to the notice of librarians by Mr. W. F. Poole. H. A. HOMES.

[Perhaps Professor W. R. Nichols may find matter of sufficient interest in the above suggestions to induce him to continue his very exact and minute study of leather bindings, and give the public a supplementary paper on the subject. The Readers' and Writers' Economy Co., of Boston, which makes a business of seeking practical solutions to all difficulties connected with libraries, buildings and fixtures, now recommends its Economy Steam Heater, because it avoids these objections urged against the hot-air furnace. Whether the solution is complete must be proved by further trial. Thus far, all the experiments agree in condemning the furnace and recommending steam. Let us have other testimonies as to the best artificial heat for libraries.—ED.]

BEFORE REBINDING.

HAVING, as agent in London for American libraries, had twenty-four years' experience of books and binding, and previously ten years of the binder's art exclusively, I may, perhaps, offer a few useful hints bearing on the question "Before Rebinding" (see February number of this journal). 1. "How to treat a book which has only one or two signatures loose": This generally arises from a broken thread, and cobbling will be useless. The shortest and best way is to take the book out of the cover, re sew it and insert as before. If done properly, it will be as durable as when first issued. If the book be bound in leather, and edges cut, a good plan is to carefully take out the loose sheet, "overcast" it, as binders say,—that is, sew the back in a way which I think ladies call "seaming." This will secure all the leaves. Then carefully lay some paste along the outer edge of the back, and

insert the sheet in its place, forcing it firmly in with the point of a paper knife, using it at intervals along the middle of the sheet, the book resting on its back, fore edge upward, partially closed, held so with the left hand, the right being engaged in forcing in the sheet; then close the book, which will be ready for use when dry. Care must be taken in this operation not to use too much paste, or shutting the book will squeeze it over the adjoining leaves, causing an unpleasant pucker.

2. "Books with worn corners and backs": If the book be half bound in leather, the back and corners being actually broken, the best way is to strip off the old back and corners and to recover the book. If the corners of the boards are pulpy, rub in paste or glue and slightly hammer out; stick on brown paper corners. When thoroughly dry, these will be as hard as originally, and well prepared for the new leather corners. This method may, of course, be followed if the corners only are bad. The book will then simply require new paper sides, as well as corners, and a single leaf, neatly pasted inside, to cover the overlapping corners and paper.

3. When a hollow or "spring" back book becomes loose, it may be treated as No. 1, by resewing, etc. If bound in leather, the "slips" must be cut, the book taken out and re sewn, backed into shape, and re-inserted as a "tight" back, by glueing the back of the book and fixing it in firmly. The "slips" having been cut away, the "tight" back becomes necessary to retain the book in its cover. The only objection to this is its rigidity as compared with the hollow back; the advantage is its durability.

4. Experience has taught me that the most lasting style of binding for a hardly worked library is this: Let the book be sewed "all along," as it is called by the trade. This effectually binds sheet to sheet throughout, the first and last sheet being carefully "overcast." This will lock the doors at each end of the book; then, when it is ready for the leather, let this be put on with paste in the usual way,—the back of the book having been first glued,—no paper or lining of any kind intervening between the back of the book and the leather. This is the secret of strength. The rough inner surface of the leather will stick to the glued back of the book to the last, and is "warranted to wear well." Any leather may be used, as desired. Bands may be added, if wished, though in this case the binding will not be quite so flexible. Without bands, the book will open "soft and easy." One objection to this method is that, when finished, the back does not look quite so smooth as when "lined" in the usual way, and will perhaps show a few wrinkles; but for durability, ele-

gance must sometimes be sacrificed. Fearing to make this paper too long, I have confined my remarks to the points of the article signed M. O. N., in the February number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. EDWARD G. ALLEN, London.

AN INDEXING BUREAU.

EVERY literary worker has suffered more or less for the want of good indexes. So much has this been felt that it has been a serious question whether copyright should not be withheld from a work not properly indexed, and the author subjected to a pecuniary penalty. A distinguished member of the Index Society makes it a rule to refuse the purchase for his library of any book, however important, that is published without an index. If book-buyers would agree to this practice the publishers would soon be eager to supply the want, and we might hope to see the time when it would be as rare to find a book without an index as without a title-page.

The uninitiated suppose that any ignorant hack can make an index—that it is a task fit only for the dull; but there is far more scope for the exercise of judgment and abilities than they dream of, and many eminent men have not been ashamed to appear before the world as indexers. As has been often quoted, "No writer is so much read as the maker of a good index—or so much cited." The ideal indexer needs many high qualifications, and, unlike the poet, he is not born but made. The labor and patience, the judgment and penetration which are required to make a good index, is known only to those who have gone thorough this valuable but least praised part of a publication.

A skillful indexer will often make a better index than an author himself, and many authors, who have not time to do the work themselves, would gladly pay a competent indexer if they knew of such.

The evil of no indexes is cured often by a remedy superior only to the disease. Most of the indexes sent out annually by our periodicals are a disgrace to American intelligence, and, saddest of all, the publishers generally seem unaware of their character.

There are large numbers of standard works to which students must frequently refer, which are a source of constant irritation from the difficulty of finding what is required in their voluminous pages. The English Index Society is admirable in its objects, but what are we doing here? Our libraries contain thousands of volumes on history, science, art, etc., otherwise of much value, but rendered almost worthless for want of proper indexes. Sometimes librarians make full tables of contents

or indexes for themselves, but this is a waste of power, many doing the work of one. Should a number of our prominent libraries co-operate, employ a skillful indexer and publish indexes to such standard works, the gain would be immense, and the smaller libraries would gladly purchase copies enough to make the cost to each co-operating library very trifling.

Probably the Index Society will find so much more than it can do at home, that we cannot hope for much American indexing from it, and we must face this question for ourselves.

Recognizing the value and importance of this work, there has been started an Indexing Department, equipped with racks, boxes, slips, and every mechanical help for arranging and doing the work in the best and quickest manner.

The Boston libraries supplement the special index reference books provided. Orders from authors, publishers, periodicals, libraries, etc., will be placed in the hands of a skillful indexer, trained specially for this, and familiar also with all the details of library work and cataloging. The index will be made with any desired degree of fullness or condensation, and the charge will be as low as competent work can be done. It is thought that this will enable those wishing indexes, and willing to pay necessary expenses, to get satisfactory work at moderate charges. Should the demand warrant, other competent indexers will be trained and employed.

We hardly need add that the new Index Department is a part of the practical Supply Department, and should be addressed, like that, at the General Offices of the Library Association, P. O. 260, Boston.

BRASS GUIDE-BOARDS FOR CARD CATALOGS.

IN the Boston Athenæum card catalog, I have put under such countries as Great Britain, France, United States, and under the greater cities, zinc guides for every branch of government (*Admiralty, Army, Board of Trade, Colonial Office, etc.*), and every subject division (*Agriculture, Antiquities, Architecture, Art, etc.*). There are 60 zincs, for instance, under Great Britain, and more to come. If there are not cards enough under any of these divisions to keep the zincs apart and prevent their overlapping, I insert a block of wood about 4 mm. thick, which is removed when enough cards have come in to fill the space. Ordinarily, it is very hard to find anything under a country in a card catalog. With these helps, it is as easy as in a good printed catalog; in one respect easier, since the whole arrangement is spread before one, to be read at a glance.

But, for greater clearness, it is necessary to have guides at the beginning of each of these two divisions (1. Branches of Government; 2. Works about the country), which should show the searcher at once that there are, and why there are, two alphabets. We had these made of zinc, but they did not catch the eye quickly; a different color was necessary. I thought of brass; but, not knowing how to write on it, inquired of Mr. S. P. Sharples, State Assayer, who had told me of the platonic chlorid with which we write on zinc. His reply was:

"The ink used on the zinc will give you a good mark on brass. If brass is used, I would advise that it be first polished, then written on, and finally varnished with a solution of shellac in alcohol. This will prevent its tarnishing by handling. It will form the most suitable material for this purpose that you can obtain."

Of course, the varnishing is equally good for zincs.

C: A. CUTTER.

CLEARING-HOUSE FOR DUPLICATES.

THE solution to the vexed and vexing duplicate question is to secure somewhere, where rent is cheap, plenty of room for the arrangement of the duplicates from the various libraries. A competent person must be on duty to receive and price all contributions from each library. To this clearing-house each library would send everything which it did not want. The value assigned by the manager, who should have no interest in making it higher or lower, is credited to the library which may draw from the stock any books it may want, paying for the accommodation a commission sufficient to meet its share of the small expenses. This plan well organized will prove the cheapest and best solution to the duplicate question. The objection to turning duplicates into some Book Exchange on this same plan is that the agent would find it for his interest to put low prices on what he bought, and high on what he sold. Perhaps some trustworthy dealer would open such a duplicate department, agreeing to sell everything he bought for a given per cent. advance on the price which he paid. Nearly every library is embarrassed by stacks of books of no possible value to it, because of their duplicates. Very often every volume in the collection would be prized by some other library. This is specially true of odd volumes of sets, periodicals, transactions, etc.

The Association has a committee on this subject, and we have all hoped that their report would solve this question. I hope their plan will be a better one than I have here so briefly suggested.

MELVIL DUL.

Some experience in a similar matter convinces me that this plan would not work. The "Accommodation Department" of the *Publishers' weekly* undertook to do this for the book-trade (and libraries), but without the considerable cost of storing and handling the books themselves. It advertised titles for a commission on sales. The returns did not cover the *minimum* of clerical labor. The "clearing-house" would be choked with duplicates that nobody wanted, as this Department was with titles of such books; and a very large percentage on actual exchanges would be insufficient to pay the expenses on books not exchanged. Unless some charge is made on all books invoiced, the privilege would inevitably be abused; if such a charge were made it would be little used. A schedule, in the *JOURNAL* or on broadsides, of really desirable duplicates, seems to me the plan most likely to be practicable. R. R. BOWKER.

The very trouble I seek to avoid is made above the argument against my plan. With rare exception, librarians can not and will not give the time to make catalogs or lists of their duplicates, and then to attend to the detailed correspondence, pricing, selling, packing, shipping, billing, collecting, etc., etc., pertaining to the "storing and handling." Few of us can get time to properly catalog our books that are wanted daily, and, as has been pretty well proved, any plan that leaves all this work to be done by the librarian is a dead letter. The duplicates will be let alone. The essential of my system for duplicates would be that any book not wanted in the library could be put into a box *without even making an entry*, and that when full the box could be nailed up and shipped by cheap freight to some place (preferably so near a paper-mill that no reshipment would be necessary) where all the value there was in it would be credited to the sender. Such a plan would give great relief. The duplicates, good, bad and indifferent, would be cleared out of the building, and there would be no feeling that good books had been sold at waste-paper prices, or that some rarity had slipped away at the auction price, which is seldom much higher on miscellaneous duplicates than the paper-mill price.

As to the clearing-house being choked with worthless duplicates, I answer that books must be sent *unconditionally*, and that no one else in the country could judge so well as the manager of the clearing-house which ones should be sent at once to the paper-mill. This was a special point. Few librarians are so trained that their judgment could always be trusted as to what should be kept and what ground up. At the center, a man making this his specialty would learn what books were

wanted and what ones were very common; *e. g.*, he may know that of some volume of public documents 1,000 extra copies were printed, and that therefore there was small chance of that being wanted; or that only half the regular edition was printed, and therefore a volume imperfect and in a bad condition would still have special value in completing sets, which could otherwise never be completed.

Granted that this work would cost something. A co-operative plan, with a trained specialist to do it all, would cost far less than any other. If duplicates are to be made available, some one must do some work. Is not the cheapest the best way? If it wont pay to do the work in the cheapest way, it certainly wont pay to do it at all.

Advertising duplicates, except very valuable ones, often costs more than they are worth, and this field, which has been open since the creation, has never been successfully worked beyond a few libraries. In fact, almost every library has a pile of what is to it rubbish, and is afraid to sell it for old paper, because there are some books of known value, and others that may be worth a good deal to some one. We must either give up the question or get some other solution than advertising, and leaving each library to attend to all the vexatious details and delays of sales and exchanges.

M. D.

RECIPROCITY.

A LETTER was received last February at the Providence Public Library, written by an English library officer, and making inquiries about some of the features of our public library. The writer, who was in charge of a library at Horncastle, in Lincolnshire, was specially interested in the methods of posting daily bulletins on matters of current interest, of preparing special reference lists, and of co-operating with the schools in the matter of guiding the reading of young people. In response to this request, copies of these bulletins and references were sent, and also of the "suggestions for the use of pupils."

A second letter was received from the English correspondent, Mr. Hudson, about a month later. After acknowledging the receipt of the material which had been sent, and saying that he had put the "suggestions" into use in his own library, he made the following courteous offer. Alluding to a remark by the Providence librarian, that Horncastle was in the vicinity of that Boston from which our New England Boston is named, he said:

"Yes, Horncastle is about 20 miles from Boston. The whole neighborhood is historical, for many battles between Cromwell and the Royalists were fought in this district. And now, to bring Horn-

castle into nearer relationship with Providence, will you kindly select from the following titles of books one which I will present to the library, with my kind regards."

The one which was selected by our Public Library was that which possessed the greatest local interest, and thus served to make the gift a significant one. This volume, which arrived here safely a short time before the recent re-opening of the library, is entitled "The Fenland," by Miller and Skerthley.—*Providence Evening Bulletin*.

THE LOAN OF RARE BOOKS.

THE burning of Professor Mommsen's library has created no slight anxiety among bibliophiles as to the possible destruction of manuscripts and other works which can never be replaced, and it seems to be more than probable that, in some instances, this will prove to have been the case. Whether the Professor had induced the authorities at the Vatican to depart from a rule which would, if they had acceded to his applications, have been broken for the first time in the history of the famous collection, is not at present known; but even if the famous Papal shelves have not suffered, some of our own libraries will find themselves losers by the fire, and several famous Continental collections will also be deprived of valuable works. The sympathy which has naturally been evoked for the Professor, whose personal losses include not merely his books, but manuscripts representing long years of toil, will, it is expected, lead to efforts to replace some of his treasures, which were very inadequately insured; but the moral of the misfortune concerns others in addition to the principal sufferer. The readiness with which some of our English libraries—and the Bodleian's mistaken liberality in this particular has been specially called in question—intrust their choicest possessions to distinguished authors cannot be too strongly condemned, for even where a literary worker has the most urgent need of some rare tome for purposes of comparison or collation, he may fairly be expected to come to its proper home to do his work, or to pay an expert to do it for him. This ought to be a rule absolutely without an exception in regard to all public libraries, and, indeed, the owners of private collections would do well to come to the same unalterable determination. Another point which has been suggested by the disaster is the possibility of securing, by the aid of photography, *replicas* of some of the unique works possessed by the chief libraries of Europe. To give effect to any such scheme, there must be a willing co-operation on the part of the governments of the respective countries, which it would, we believe, be far from difficult to secure, if the heads of the libraries took

the matter in hand and prepared some satisfactory and workable plan of operation. To meet the inevitably heavy expenses, many private persons would doubtless willingly consent to subscribe for copies, and thus reduce the outlay from the national exchequers.—*Publishers' Circular*.

A LIBRARY THEFT.

M. DELISLE, says the *Chronique du Journ. gén. de la librairie*, quoting from the *Moniteur*, noticed in the Lyons library a ms. containing a Latin translation of part of the Pentateuque, and, strangely enough, this fragment just completed the translation which Lord Ashburnham published in 1868 from a ms. bought of the notorious Libri. The inference was obvious. Libri had stolen his ms. Still, it might have been taken from the Lyons library at the time of the Revolution, and this was Lord Ashburnham's theory. But M. DeLisle discovered in a work of a certain German Doctor Flech, published at Leipzig in 1837-8, references to this ms. as at Lyons, and quotations of rubrics which are printed at p. 1, 60 and 160 of the Ashburnham edition. The ms. sold by Libri in 1847 must, therefore, have been at Lyons in 1834, the date of Dr. Flech's journey. As soon as this was brought to Lord Ashburnham's notice, he offered to restore the ms. to its original owner, on two conditions: 1st, it should be acknowledged that he was not bound to do so, and that it was a pure gift; 2d, it should be stated that it was not till a year after the death of his father, who bought the ms., that its real ownership was discovered.

It is rather remarkable that, it is said, an agreement was made between Libri and Lord Ashburnham that none of the ms. sold to the latter by Libri should be published for twenty years.

LITERARY BLUNDERS.

"WHEN we moved into the combined South African Library and Museum buildings, several volunteers assisted in placing the books in the shelves. One morning the librarian, with an amused smile on his face, showed me a book he had found among the medical works; it was Burton's 'Anatomy of Melancholy'! Next day it was back again! and while we were wondering who had so placed it, the culprit came forward and applauded himself for mending the work of 'some stupid fellow' who did not know where to place medical books! A friend sent me Miller's 'Old Red Sandstone.' On arriving at the P. O. with the sender's letter, I accosted the P. M. G. with the remark that I believed the book then in his hands was mine. 'It is,' I said, the 'Old Red Sandstone,' by Miller, who wrote '—I was going to add 'The Testimony of the Rocks,' when my old friend cut me short with—'Yes, yes, I know,—the jokes, the jokes'!! Shades of old Joe! I gravely acquiesced, and walked off with my book."—*Consul Layard, in Nature*.

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EDITED BY CHARLES A. CUTTER.

A. Library economy, history, and reports.

BRATASSEVIC. Zur Statistik der Bibliotheken. (In *Statistische Monatschrift*, Wien, p. 260-265.)

Very unsatisfactory, says Petzholdt. Knows nothing of the U. S. "special report" or of Heitz's pamphlet.

BULWER, Rev. James. Ceiling of the library at Blickling Hall, Norfolk [its emblems and mottoes]. (In *Antiquary*, June.) 1½ p.

CHICAGO P. L. 8th an. report, June. Chicago, 1880. 36 p. O.

Added 7,671; total 67,722; issued 306,751. A "falling off in the circulation commenced with the sudden revival of business in the spring of last year. The use of English prose fiction and juvenile books increased from 61.61 to 64.4, many of the volumes that were worn out having been replaced during the past year." The necessity of a new library building is insisted upon.

DENNET, C. F. The Public Library, the claim of the late J. P. Bigelow to be its founder.

Mr. Dennet relates that "in the first year of the mayoralty of Mr. Bigelow, the establishment of a public library was several times the subject of conversation between us, and finally he had prepared in the city hall, in a spare room, rough deal shelves or bunks for the first very miscellaneous collection,—contributions by his own hands from his own library. A sort of committee from the Council was formed, and on several occasions met to discuss matters. Contributions were made by several persons. I recollect that a good deal of what I styled literary lumber was tumbled into the wooden bunks."

DOCUMENTS relatifs aux bibliothèques universitaires ou des facultés, suivis d'instruction générale conc. le service de ces bibliothèques. Paris, Delalain frères, 1880. 64 p. 8°. 1 fr.

GESTA, M. Provision de vacantes en el cuerpo de archiveros y bibliotecarios. (In *Boletín histórico*, Apr.-May.)

HARTFORD (Conn.) LIB. ASSOC. 42d an. report, June 1. Hartford, 1880. 22 p. O.

Percentage of issues: Fiction 69, Biog. 6, Hist. 6, Travel 4½, Arts and Sci. 4½, Poetry and Drama 2½, Theol. 1½, Miscel. 6.

HARTWIG, O. Die Pflicht Exemplare d. deutschen Buchhändler. (In *Neuer Anzeiger*, June.) 3 p.

INDIANAPOLIS. BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS. 18th an. report, for the year ending June 30, 1879. Indianapolis, 1879. 164 p. O.

Pages 147-161 contain the report of the librarian, A. W. Tyler. Added Apr. 1, 1878-June 30, 1879, 3,217 v., 1901 pm.; total 30,507 v., 4,142 pm.; issued 42,845; in the reading-room, 63,555 periodicals, 49,372 books. The librarian urges the

importance of completing the files of public documents, and calls for a law regulating their distribution.

ODD FELLOWS' LIB. ASSOC., *San Francisco*. 25th an. report, for 1879-80. San F., 1880. 31 p. O.

Added 1,350 v.; total about 34,850; issued 96,567 (of which 70,819 were novels). The librarian makes a vigorous protest against the abuse of books by borrowers.

SAYCE, A. H. Oxford letter. (In the *Academy*, June 5.)

"Unfortunately the library has to struggle against 'that eternal want of pence which vexes public men.' The ordinary Englishman, whose library consists of a few volumes of controversial sermons, mingled with stray railway novels and half-a-dozen 'standard works,' purchased for the sake of their covers, has little idea of the funds required for the maintenance of a really good library. The field of knowledge has become so vast, and the departments into which it is divided so many and minute, that of making of modern books there is practically no end. For the student in each department many of these are absolutely indispensable; and unluckily it happens that most of the indispensable books have been published abroad. They have therefore to be bought by the Bodleian. And so it happens that the reader not unfrequently applies for a book in vain, or turns over the pages of the catalogue for book after book, to find that the library is destitute of them all. We can fling away thousands on a new examination hall, and yet grudge a few hundreds to our public library. It is, however, only the natural symptom of an age which puts its faith in examination papers, and sneers at research. Public libraries are of small use to those who believe learning and knowledge to be that spurious sort of omniscience which pays in the schools. Ah! well, this examination mania is, after all, but the necessary companion of the spirit of modern democracy."

The TICKNOR Spanish Library [at the Boston Public Library]. (In *New Englander*, May.) 10 p.

Instances the gradual loss by the Spanish libraries of their treasures as a reason why great collections of Spanish books ought to be in other countries.

B. Catalogs.

ABBOTT LIBRARY notes. N. Willard Sanborn, editor, Summer 1880, Marblehead, Mass., No. 1. [8] p. 16½ cm.

4 p. of selected criticisms, and 4 p. containing a list of good books in the Library.

MANCHESTER (*Eng.*) PUB. FREE LIBRARIES. Catalogue of the Rochdale Road Branch Lending Library. 2d ed. Man., 1880. [8] + 150 + [1] p. O.

RONALDS, Sir Francis. Catalogue of books and papers rel. to electricity, magnetism, electric telegraph, etc., incl. the Ronalds Library; with biog. mem.; ed. by Alfred J. Frost. Lond., Spon, 1880. 27 + 564 p. 8°. pap. \$6.50.

13,000 entries. By the conditions of the trust, the Society were not permitted to bring the catalog up to date. They will, however, publish a supplement which will remedy this defect.

PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Catalogue of the library, 3d ed., compiled by J. W. Knapman, librarian. Appended is the Catalogue of the North British Branch. London, 1880. 445 p. O.

A "dictionary" catalogue. Short entries or references appear under subjects, titles, co-authors, authors of biographies, reporters, editors, translators, and pseudonyms, in a few cases under artists. Subject headings and first words of title entries are printed in *Clarendon*; authors in *SMALL CAPITALS*. In the case of the work occupying two or more volumes, the number of volumes is given; of single volumes the numbers of pages are stated. The compiler has solved the problem of the best way to indicate the form or size of books, by not indicating them at all. As appears from the above extract, the plan is unusually full for a dictionary catalogue, and it seems to be well carried out.

The BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY bulletin for July has a short bibliography of the Ober-Ammergau passion play, and continues the note on the Renaissance.

The HARTFORD LIB. ASSOCIATION's July bulletin contains a note on "The children's vacation," for which, says the *Nation*, parents ought to be thankful.

C. Bibliography.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE [de la Russie]. (In *Journal gén. de l'impr., Chron.*, May 29, June 5.) 3+2 col.

A notice of the periodical so called, edited by Emil Hartge, which is just entering upon its second year. The *Journal* praises both the plan and the execution of the Russian semi-monthly bibliography; and summarizes the first article, by Eichholz, which gives an interesting account of the rich private libraries of Russia.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE de Michel de l'Hospital. (In *Bulletin du bibliophile*, Dec., 1879.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY of R. W. Emerson. (In *Literary world*, May 22.)

CIVEZZA, Marcellino da. Saggio di bibliografia geografica storica etnografica sanfrancescana. Prato, Ranieri Guasti, 1880. 1879. 698 p. 8°.

"Titles and analysis of 819 works referring to the cosmopolitan voyages and labors of the Franciscans."

DEXTER, H: Martyn. Collections toward a bibliography of Congregationalism. (Appended to his *Congregationalism of the last 300 years*. N. Y., Harpers, 1880. 1. O.) 308 p.

7,250 titles. "Except in that portion which is so near our own day in date that the publications described are presumably of easy access, I have endeavored to specify one or more libraries in which they may be found. The press marks are

inserted of nearly all the books described down to A. D. 1700, which are to be found in the British Museum and the Bodleian. All places of European publication have been given in roman letters; all in this country in italic." Evidently a work of the greatest labor and pains, without pretending to what is called "bibliographical" fullness, it contains almost all the data, so far as they could be obtained, that are needed in the study of the subject.

E. F. Bibliographie de l'immaculée conception. (In *Polybiblion*, Dec. 1879; Jan., Feb. 1880.) 17 p.

ENGLISH catalogue of books for 1879. London, Low, 1880. 112 p. O.

F. F. W. List of anti-usury books. (In *Notes and q.*, 5th s., v. 10, p. 281, 341, 422; v. 11, p. 63, 163, 262, 361, 446.)

FORADADA, J. Biografia bibliog. de D. José Maria Eguren. (In *Boletín histórico*, Apr.-May.)

FURCHHEIM, Federigo. Bibliotheca pompejana; catalogo ragionato di opere sopra Ercolano e Pompei pubblicate in Italia ed all'estero dalla scoperta delle due città fino ai tempi più recenti. Con un appendice, Opere sul Vesuvio. Napoli, Furchheim, 1880. 7 + 37 p. 8°. 3 m.

GEE, W. H. Works relating to bibliography, history of printing, book-binding, etc., catalogues of public libraries on sale, Oxford, 1880. n. p., n. d. 62 p. O.

HUBBARD, H. P. Right-hand record and newspaper directory. New Haven, 1880. 3 + 461 p. 8°. \$2.50.

MANCHESTER, H. E. What to read and where to find it. Buffalo, Peter Paul & Bro., 1880. 20 p. 18°.

MARSH, le comte de. Bibliographie picarde. Amiens, imp. Delattre-Lenoël, 1880. 20 p. 8°.

Only 50 copies printed; but can be had in *La Picardie*, revue hist., n. sér., v. 2, from which it is reprinted.

MOEBIUS, Th. Verzeichniss der auf dem Gebiete der altnordischen Sprache und Literatur 1855-79 erschienenen Schriften. Lpz., 1880. 8°.

"A continuation of a similar work, bringing the subject down to 1855. Like its predecessor, it is invaluable to students of the Northern languages and literatures, especially as it is classified according to subject."—*Saturday rev.*, June 19.

MOURAVIT, G. La bibliographie des fous. (In *Miscel. bibliogr.*, No. 28.)

NOTES on book-plates; by a collector. (In *Antiquary*, Feb.) 4½ p.—HAMILTON, Walter. Book-plates. (In March.) 2½ col.—WALLIS, Alfred. Book-plates. (In June.) 3¼ p.

PITRÉ, G. Bibliografia dei proverbi siciliani. (In *Nuove effemeridi sicil.*, March-Apr.)

RUELLE, Emile, *Librarian of the Sainte Geneviève Library, Paris*. Bibliographie générale des Gaules. Tome 1. Paris, Firmin-Didot, 1880. 8°.

The work is divided into two parts, the first a methodical catalogue divided into five series, each series being subdivided into twenty sections, and the second part is an alphabetical catalogue of the authors' names cited in the work. The work commences with the history of Gaul, and devotes particular attention to the wars of the Gauls. The author then treats of the following subjects: Religions, Paganism, Druidism, Christianity, institutions and manners, topography, itineraries and Roman ways, archaeology, prehistoric antiquities, Gallic art, Gallo-Roman art, Celtic monuments, ceramic art, coins, language, etc. The work, when complete, will consist of four volumes.

SABELL, Dr. E. W. Literatur d. sogenannten Lehnin'schen Weissagung, schematisch u. chronologisch dargestellt. Heilbronn, Henninger, 1879. 8 + 112 p. 8°. 3.50 m.

Contains not merely the bibliography, but the prophecy itself, 4 German versions, notices of the Cloister of Lehnin, with list of the abbots, and the various views in regard to the origin of the prophecy.

SCARTAZZINI, J. A. Dante-Bibliographie, 1870-77. (Pages 588-655 of *Jahrbuch des Dante-Vereins*, 1877.)

WILLEMS, Alphonse. Les Elzevir, hist. et annales typographiques. Brux., van Trigt, 1880. 259 + 607 p. 4 pl., 1 fac-sim. of writing and 1 general table. 30 fr.

"In spite of the previously abundant Elzevir literature, this is by no means superfluous. It gives new information and corrects old errors. In three parts: 'Hist. des E.'; 'Annales typog. des E.' (1610 nos.); 'Annexes de la collection elzevirienne' (576 nos.)."—*Petaholdt*.

There is a favorable notice in the *Athenaeum*, July 3. 2½ col.

SELIGMANN, Leopold. German libraries and librarians. (In the *Academy*, July 24.) 2½ col. Occasioned by the article of the same name in our May no.

"I do not venture to ask whether this 'private letter' was an answer to one previously sent from America, or whether it was published with the consent of the writer; but I doubt whether all the associate editors will approve of publishing a letter which it is charitable to suppose was never meant for the public eye. The Library Association will certainly know how difficult it is for me to understand that a countryman of mine, and a 'prominent librarian' at the same time, should have recourse to a foreign journal to attack his own colleagues; for in so doing he will not in the slightest degree ameliorate the state of things of which he complains. Every fair thinker will necessarily ask, Why has he not published his grievances in a German journal? Why does he not make suggestions to his colleagues? Why does he not organize a Library Association such

as exists in England? And why has he never attended those international conferences held annually in England since 1877?

"I willingly acknowledge the desirability of library publications—especially printed catalogues. They are a matter of importance which a great library should never neglect, as beneficial both in the library itself and to the literary world at large. But it is no easy task for great libraries, such as most of the German State and University libraries are, to put their catalogues in print, more especially as in Germany equal importance is attached to classified subject-catalogues and to alphabetical catalogues.

"While both kinds of catalogues are kept in every German State and University library, and while, for instance, the great Berlin Library offers an unrivaled model of good cataloguing, the printing of these catalogues would be almost impossible in view of the expense and our limited means. We have seen the difficulties the British Museum had to face before even the current accessions to its general catalogue were put in print. Nevertheless, the movement in Germany to print catalogues is not so slight as the article in question will have it; and though I have had no time for a general investigation, the members of the Library Association may, perhaps, be surprised to see, in 1886, when the fifth centenary of Heidelberg University is to be celebrated, an extensive catalogue of MSS., to which, by way of precursor, will be issued a printed inventory (on the plan of M. Delisle's inventory of the Latin MSS. in the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris), prepared by Dr. Carl Zangemeister, the principal librarian. There is actually a notice of another printed catalogue—namely, that of the 'Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft'—in the very number of the journal (p. 151) which complains that catalogues are not printed.

"It is ridiculous to compare the great German libraries with the numerous but comparatively small libraries in America. Our libraries are different in purpose, and consequently different in nature, from the American libraries, and what the latter deem so important and necessary, namely, that they should serve as instruments of general education, does not much concern German libraries. A German librarian would never claim such a scope for his work as that claimed by Prof. Justin Winsor during the London Congress, 1877 (see *Transactions*, p. 251). 'We have undertaken,' he said, 'to solve a great problem in America. It is the problem of education. We believe the library is more potent than the university.' The very next question would be, What are the qualifications those librarians themselves possess who cast the University into the shade? At the London Congress no American librarian spoke on this very serious subject, and I am sorry to say that at the conferences hitherto held in England no one has mooted the question. Germany demands from an individual who wishes to become an assistant-librarian in a State or University library the same qualifications which are required for an academical professorship; and all his private work, however valuable, will gain him neither relief from his library duties nor promotion. The Rector of Lincoln, in his *Life of Isaac Casaubon*, has said: 'The librarian who reads is lost,' and with this sentiment, doubtless, every American librarian cordially sympathizes; but Germany

takes care that he has at least read before he becomes a librarian.

"The anonymous writer is silent on this question, possibly for fear he might by accident say something good of his fellows; nor does he mention those valuable bibliographies issued by German professors as well as by librarians. I advocate guides and printed catalogues myself, but I doubt whether they could make access to great libraries, based on old plans, easier or more prized than it is now. It were certainly to be regretted if these catalogues led people to resort more to our libraries than to our schools and universities. The means of education are nowhere better or cheaper than in Germany, and even our libraries afford greater facilities to those who actually work, who do not merely use 'the idler's right to stroll about,' than any in the world. On this point, I will quote to the 'prominent German librarian' the evidence of an American librarian, the Rev. T. Vickers, of the Public Library, Cincinnati, who says (see *Transactions*, p. 175): 'In Germany all the library treasures of the empire are practically at the command of the scholar, in whatever part of the country he may reside, and this, too, without the trouble and expense of long journeys.'

"Our anonymous writer divides German scholars into 'specialists' who 'use nothing but special bibliographies,' and a 'clique of historical and philological students'; and, though this is not altogether incorrect, yet there is this difference between him and myself, that what he seems inclined to stigmatize as a pedantic and useless arrangement, I call a valuable and wholesome division of labor, and to this I called attention at the Congress in London, 1877 (see *Transactions*, p. 171). If there is any method by which German scholars have gained renown, it is mainly the adoption of this principle; if there is one way by which general superficiality and self-deception can be encouraged, it is by neglecting a method which is in accordance with reason, and with the limited capacity of individual workers.

"As to general access to the catalogue, it must not be forgotten that we speak here of State and University libraries, and that these are chiefly frequented by students. It must be further borne in mind that the lecture system in German universities facilitates the use of libraries, for every professor gives, or is supposed to give, toward the end of his lecture, the bibliography of the topic he has been discussing. He certainly does not, and cannot, say that the books he mentions are in the library, and so far the catalogue must be consulted; the question only is, Who shall do so, the reader, or the librarian for the reader? It cannot be denied that every reader should have ready access to the catalogue. In some German libraries the catalogue must necessarily be consulted by the reader, as, for instance, in Heidelberg; in some libraries it cannot be generally consulted, as in Berlin, merely on the ground of limited accommodation; but now new premises, on the most extensive scale, are being built. Even in Berlin, however, all possible access to the catalogue is granted.

"I must decline to follow the anonymous writer into the private life of German librarians. However piquant such particulars may be to American readers, both English and German good taste forbids their being intruded on the public. I also

see no reason to discuss the writer's statement that his colleagues take up American library publications 'with a contemptuous shrug.' The very comprehensiveness of this charge carries with it its own refutation. Nowhere does a good publication receive a warmer welcome than in Germany; but, on the other hand, nowhere does commonplace writing meet with a worse reception, more especially if these publications come with unjustifiable pretensions, or if they adopt unwarranted means of thrusting themselves into notice. I must say that no public servants in any country work with more zeal and efficiency than the librarians of Germany; their hours of work are as many as those of the assistants at the British Museum, the division of time being in accordance with the habit of the respective countries."

PSEUDONYMS AND ANONYMS.

EDITED BY JAS. L. WHITNEY.

PSEUDONYMS.

E. H. Arr.—"New England by-gones" (Phila., 1880, Lippincott). Mrs. Ellen H. Rollins.

J. E.

Beta.—"The model town" (Cambridge, for the author, 1869). E. B. Bassett.

Chrysanthus, Chrysanthea.—Authors of "Hymns of the Two-in-one; for bridal worship in the kingdom of the new life" (Salem-on-Erie, 1876). The first is the pseudonym of Thomas Lake Harris, the second of Lilly C. Harris.

British Museum Catalogue.

E. D. Gerard.—"Reata" (Edinb., 1880). E. D. Gerard is the *nom de plume* of two ladies who have an hereditary connection with literature.

Athenaeum.

Annette Elisabeth v. D H—"Gedichte" (Münster, 1838). Annette Elisabeth von Droste-Hülshoff.

Claude Lake.—"Poems by Claude Lake" (London, 1867, A. W. Bennett). Mathilde Blind.

Mattie May.—"Ethel Dutton" (Boston, 1880, Loring). Mrs. C. R. Brown, Concord, N. H.

Thekla.—"Three of us" (Boston, 1880, Lothrop). Mrs. Caroline A. Mason.

Octave Thanet.—The entertaining magazine-writer who signs herself Octave Thanet, is Miss Alice French, of Davenport, Ia. She was educated at the Abbot Academy, Andover, Mass.

Morristown Herald.

Franz Wallner.—"Rückblicke auf meine theatrale Laufbahn und meine Erlebnisse an und ausser der Bühne" (Berlin, 1864). Franz Leidesdorf.

Arnold Winchester.—"From Madge to Margaret" (B., 1880, Lee & Shepard). Caroline G. Curtis.

ANONYMS.

A child's life and work (Malvern, 1877). Mary Estridge.
British Museum Catalogue.

The memoir of Francis Dedk, the Hungarian statesman (Macmillan, 1880). From the pen of Miss Florence Arnold Foster. *Athenaeum.*

Men and things of Exeter. Sketches from the history of an old New England town (Exeter, 1880). By the Hon. Charles H. Bell.

Seven great hymns of the mediæval church (N. Y., 1856, Randolph). Edited by Mr. William C. Prime. A. G.

The uncertainties of travel. A plain statement by a certain traveller (Boston, privately printed, 1880). George A. Bethune, M. D., of Boston.

NOTES.

Dick Humelbergius Secundus.—"Apician morsels; or, tales of the table, kitchen and larder" (N. Y., 1829, Harper). What is the real name of the author?

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

Special reference list prepared by W. E. Foster, Providence Public Library, to accompany Prof. Diman's lectures (continued from LIBRARY JOURNAL, v. 5, p. 175^b).

COMPARISON WITH THAT OF THE MOTHER COUNTRY.

NOTE.—On this subject in general, see Tremenhoe's "The constitution of the United States compared with our own." [1854.] A work which also introduces many such comparisons is Bagehot's "The English constitution." [Ed. 1872.]

A. Points of resemblance.

The English constitution the model of the American framers. See remarks quoted by Jefferson ("Memoir, correspondence," etc., v. 4. pp. 450-51). See, also, John Adams's "Defence of the constitutions," Letter 2.

The minor details, such as the two chambers of the legislature, only superficial resemblances. Compare Bagehot's work with Prince's "Articles of confederation vs. the constitution." pp. 86-94.

* Mr. Foster desires to make the following corrections in lists previously published by him in the JOURNAL: April, 1880, p. 112, 1st col., 7th line from bottom: for "Mr. Brooks," read "Miss Peabody."

June, 1880, p. 172, 1st col., 4th line of heading: for "Brown University," read "R. I. Normal School, Providence."

June, 1880, p. 174, 2d col., c. (3) last word of NOTE: for "renewed," read "reversed."

B. *The important differences.*

1. *As regards the source of sovereignty.*
The English, heterogeneous, from three "estates." See Freeman's "Growth of the English constitution," pp. 123-31.

The American, homogeneous, from the people alone. See Mr. Webster, on the R. I. government. Works, v. 6. pp. 222-24.

2. *As regards methods of administration.*
On the "presidential" method, see Woolsey's "Political science," v. 2. pp. 266-75.

See, also, Freeman, "On presidential government," "Historical Essays." Series, 1. pp. 303-406.

On the "cabinet" method, as developed from the privy council, see Amos's "Fifty years of the English constitution," pp. 267-69.

3. *As regards the chief executive.*
On the maxim, "The king can do no wrong," see May's "Constitutional history," v. 1. p. 19.

NOTE.—Cory speaks of George III. as upholding, in Pitt, "a minister more kingly than himself." ("Guide to mod. Eng. hist." v. 1. p. 7.)

See, also, Macaulay on Pitt. (Essays. v. 6. pp. 262-67.)

See, also, Bagehot on Peel. ("Eng. const." pp. 419-68.)

4. *As regards supremacy of the popular will.*
Under the U. S. constitution, see Mulford's "The nation," pp. 246-50.

[NOTE.—Mr. Bagehot (Am. ed. pp. 293-95) points out the misconception as to English authority under which the American framers of the constitution acted.]

The close relation of the ministry to the House of Commons is pointed out by Amos. pp. 336-48.

On an alleged tendency toward increasing the prerogative of the crown, see *Quarterly review*, Apr., 1878. pp. 141-74.

Also, Mr. Gladstone's "Gleanings," v. 1. pp. 37-44, 72-87, 219-36.

[NOTE.—A consecutive view of the English constitutional history may be obtained from (1) Stubbs's "Constitutional history," n. c. 35-A. d. 1485. (2) Hallam's "Constitutional history," 1485-1760. (3) May's "Constitutional history," 1760-1860. (4) Amos's "Fifty years of the Eng. const." 1830-80.]

C. *Advantages and disadvantages.*

The question of superiority not absolute, but relative. Compare Parkman on government by abstract ideas alone. (*N. Am. Rev.* v. 129. p. 312.)

Bagehot points out several instances claimed to be advantages in the English form. ("Eng. const." pp. 52-67, 84-100, 198-201, 270-71, 288-97, 330-34.)

The fundamental difference as to the source of sovereignty, however, will be found to govern in these cases. Mulford's "Nation," ch. 7.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

EDITED BY MELVIL DUI.

SIMPLEST CHARGING SYSTEM.—I have found it practicable, in a library of limited circulation, to keep the account of books out by using only the call-slips, arranged in order of book numbers. These are looked over once a month, and notices sent to delinquents.

J. H. BARBOUR,
Trinity College, Hartford.

BLANKS FOR LITERARY ANALYSIS.—Under the extraordinary title of "The Fulcrum Found with Archimedian Levers," G. W. Townsend, Philadelphia, issues a package of blanks intended for use by students while reading. Each blank (note size) calls for analysis of any idea the reader is specially interested in—"its cause or source," "its essentials," etc., etc.

SEWING.—I wish the JOURNAL would use its influence to induce publishers to *sew* their books strongly. A friend of mine always has his books strongly sewn before using them, and finds that the cover then lasts as long as the book. Besides, these cloth covers are now got up very tastefully, and in styles suitable to the contents of the books—in some cases they must cost a good sum; it seems a pity that they are so frequently wasted through bad sewing. There is no reason why books not often consulted in libraries should not keep their cloth jackets for years.

C. W.

SEPARATE THE DEPARTMENTS.—It is common for corporations and committees when erecting new educational buildings to propose the combination of a museum, a picture-gallery and a public library. Men who are qualified to judge are of opinion that it is preferable to separate the departments. The Worcester Town Council lately sought for information by applying to the authorities of public libraries in other towns, and out of twenty-three replies there was only one which stated that the authorities were satisfied. The librarian at Dundee said, "On no account have a picture-gallery and museum."—*London Builder*.

READING IN FACTORIES.—The Cuban cigar-makers of New York city have introduced into their factories the novelty of a reader, who is paid, for one hour's reading each day at different factories, twenty-five cents per week by each person employed in them. The choice of books is left to the reader, who purchases them on his own account, and comprises for the most part light literature, though histories, biographies and travel are occasionally introduced. The effect of this system is the cultivation of a taste for reading, the listeners generally buying works referred to in any particular book in which they may take an interest.

AN INESTIMABLE BENEFACTION.—One Dr. Borne has left all his property to the Lausanne University, on the modest condition that the revenue be allowed to accumulate for 100 years, after which the capital is to be devoted to the publication, in all known languages, of his manuscript work, "Maxims and aphorisms." Every library in the world is to be furnished with a copy. "But surely," adds an English journal, "Dr. Borne, whilst occupied with the production of 'Maxims and aphorisms,' must have met with the adage to the effect that it is one thing to lead a horse to the water, and another to make him drink."

LITHOGRAM COPIES.—Persons consulting the daily notes on current topics posted in the Providence Public Library each morning have often wished copies to take home. A lithogram has therefore been adopted, with very satisfactory results. The first trial was in connection with Mr. Thomas Davidson's illustrated lecture on Olympia, October 24, and the copies made were almost immediately secured by persons interested in following the lines of reference indicated.

I intend to use the lithogram I bought of the Readers' and Writers' Economy Co. for this purpose, among others. Hereafter, I shall make copies in this way of those for which there will be any special demand. W. E. F.

BOOK-THIEVES.—On Friday, October 24, 1879, at 3 p. m., one John W. Disley secreted a reference-book under his clothing. About 4 p. m. he sold that and one other book to a local book-dealer, who, after discovering that the books were the property of the Providence Public Library, sent them immediately to the librarian. The next day, an officer being on the watch for him, the same young thief came into the library, and taking another reference-book, sat down at a table. When arrested, he was turning down the leaves at every place where the embossing-stamp had been used, doubtless intending to tear out these marks of ownership. Judge Blackwood sentenced him to four years in the Reform School, the thief being a minor.

BOOK-SIZES.—*Le Livre* for last month admits the necessity of fixing a new mode of indicating the size of books, now that paper is no longer made by hand on a mold which cannot exceed certain dimensions. But, allowing that all books above 30 centimeters may be regarded as folio, those of 25 as quarto, etc., it insists that there is no need to replace these familiar designations by capital letters likely to be mistaken for unintelligible contractions.—*Monthly notes, L. A. U. K.*

[We are glad to see any approach to the Association method of noting the size of books. We find that, to the public, 8°, 12°, 16°, O., T., S., are equally unintelligible; and that the meaning of the five or six capitals required can be learned by any librarian, or any one else, in five minutes.—ED.]

CURIOUS PAGING.—Alberti de Villeneuve's dictionnaire Français-Italien (2d ed., Milan, 1840), deserves notice among the curiosities of book-making. Page 1099 on the recto of a leaf is followed on the obverse by 2000; one hundred pages later, 2099 is followed in the same way by 3000; not till p. 3092 was reached was the error discovered, and then, strangely enough, the following page was marked 1393 when it should have been 1293. This new error was seen speedily, however, and page 1400 is followed by 1301 and thereafter the numbers proceed correctly. Is there another instance of such pagination as this? Are all the copies of this edition thus paged, or is it a peculiarity of a few, of which ours is one? W. I. F.

LENDING BOOKS.—Signor Enrico Narducci has addressed a letter to the *Popolo Romano* deprecating the practice of lending books from public libraries. He thinks, justly, that public property ought not to be converted to private use, but does not establish any connection between this indisputable principle and the particular proposition he is seeking to establish. He is on safer ground when he deplores the difficulty of recovering books permitted to be lent out, *che ritornano talora in istate deplorabile ed inservibile*. When books were kept at home, Italy had a Muratori, a Tiraboschi, a Magliabecchi, etc. At present she has none—*post hoc, ergo propter hoc*. It was a grievous thing that America, discovered by an Italian, did not become Italian; but, at least, let not Italy become American! R. G.

READING CASES.—After trying all kinds of binders' materials for the monthly parts of the periodical literature that lie upon our tables, and finding but one result, viz.: boards broken, cloth or leather ragged and torn, and the strings breaking away, I was induced, six years ago, to try oak boards with leather backs. The result has been most successful; the cases are still in use and as good as when first made. I have them made of well-seasoned oak, the backs covered with best levant morocco, and a brass rod inserted, instead of tape or string, to hold the magazine. The cost is about double that for ordinary cases, but there is no comparison in the length of service. I have

seen one, made from the pattern I supplied, the cost of which is very much less, but thicker and not so well finished.

J. PINK, Librarian,
Cambridge Free Library, England.

SCRAPPING.—I have a board or rack reclined against, or hung upon, the wall of my desk. This is perforated with pins, the points pushed quite through and pointing outward. Each pin is marked with a letter. I hang upon these pins my scraps, as they accumulate, arranging them in reference to a letter. To prevent the wind from blowing them off, I push a small cork down over the point of each pin. I can examine these scraps without disturbing their arrangement, the heads or topics being arranged so as to be convenient for reference.

The best use for an index rerum is to make it an alphabetical index of current literature, giving reference to volume and page only. Todd's "Index Rerum" is none too large for such a use, but it may take a life-time to fill it.

E. E. EDWARDS, in *Economy notes*.

TITLE-SLIP REGISTRY.—This library not only mounts on the standard cards the entries cut from the "registry," which, after the addition of the library's number, go in their alphabetical order, with the other cards, but an alphabetical arrangement of all the additions to the library which have been entered in the "registry" from January 1 to October 1, 1879, has been posted at the bulletin-desk. This will be continued by supplementary alphabetical arrangements, covering some definite period. Several copies of the "registry" being taken, the title and subject-entries can be inserted in the card-catalogue, by writing the necessary headings.

[We hope for the revival of this Registry. In the meantime, the *Publishers' weekly* furnishes the same official titles, and may be used as above.—ED.]

LIBRARY CONTRIBUTIONS SYSTEMATIZED.—The following slip was printed on a boy's hand-press, and scattered through the town. The idea is novel and fruitful, and will doubtless be copied by others:

LIBRARY DAY.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Control of the Jackson Library, it was resolved to found what is hereafter to be known as Library Day.

In the future the anniversary of this occasion will probably be observed on the first Monday in September, but for this year it is appointed for Saturday, October 18. Upon that day an authorized collector will call at the various houses to take up such books as our citizens may feel disposed to present to the Village Library.

It is believed that in every family there are good books which the owners would gladly contribute for public good.

The committee reserves the privilege of exchanging or otherwise disposing of duplicates. Please have packages ready, thus preventing any delay in collection.

ARTHUR LAWRENCE,

Secretary.

Stockbridge, Oct. 10, 1879.

INDEXING EXTRAORDINARY.—In a notice of "The Church under Queen Elizabeth," by Rev. F. G. Lea, D.D., the *Saturday Review* says:

If Dr. Lee has succeeded in nothing else, we are bound to say that he has achieved one unique feat. He has compiled the most comical, absurd, slipshod, and useless index ever appended to an English book. Thus, under the letter A, we find "Another controversy arises," and "Another pilgrimage of grace"; while under C or P we find no reference to either. Under G we are referred to "General social disorder," "Great changes in the mass," and "Great confusion"; under D, to "Disgusting barbarities," "Disagreeable events," "Disastrous times," and "Dislike of vestments"; under F, to "Frightful atrocities" and "Frightful cruelties"; under S, to "Striking results of the Reformation." But under the letter T, where nineteen entries begin with the word "The"—such as "The Catholic Church, what it teaches," "The Gallows in constant use," and "The Queen visits Canterbury"—he excels all that has ever been perpetrated in ridiculous indexing.

SHELVING PAMFLETS.—Cut a piece of stiff pasteboard, size of the page of the pamphlets in the bundle. Paste to this a strip of strong manilla ("drawing") paper of the same height as the board. Lay the board against the *further side* of the bundle so that the paper strip comes from the *back edge* of that side of the bundle against which the board is laid, past the *backs* of the pamphlets, and so around the whole bundle; and tuck the end of the strip in between the last leaf of the last pamphlet and the pasteboard. You can write the titles of the contents on the paper, beginning at the left-hand edge of the pasteboard. In this way, as the pamphlets in a certain category accumulate, they are always indexed, and always in place: and the cover always fits its contents, because, as the bundle grows thicker, the part tucked in merely grows a little shorter. Finally, there is no curling up, or dog's-earing, of the leaves when you slip them into their place on the shelf; and as the bundles stand next each other, each keeps snug the tucked side of itself and of all the rest.

CHARLES R. LANMAN, in *Economy notes*.

GENERAL NOTES.

UNITED STATES.

CUMMINGTON (Mass.) LIB.—The Cummington library, which was founded by William Cullen Bryant, is to receive an addition of books valued at \$115. There has been unusual interest taken in literary matters by the people during the past winter, owing largely to the organization of the Bryant reading club early in the season. This club have reviewed English history from the Roman conquest to the close of the reign of James I., and carefully prepared papers on all the principal events of that history have been read by members. Public meetings have also been held for debates, and the following lectures delivered: On "Southern Life," by Rev. H. B. Blake; "The Pyramids," by Rev. A. B. Whipple; "Notes on the Amazon," by Dewey Cobb; "Books and Reading," by W. W. Mitchell, and "Oriental Life," by Heman Halleck. —*Springfield Republican*.

NEW YORK FREE CIRCULATING LIBRARY is now fairly established in its new and convenient quarters at 36 Bond street, and is finding its useful and commendable work growing at an encouraging rate. This library, it will be remembered, is designed to do a missionary service among the laboring classes of the metropolis, and is supported by a private association of benevolent people, who meet the expenses and direct the details. The shelves contain about 3,500 volumes, and the present circulation is about 120 a day. Fully 75 per cent. of the demand is for juveniles and fiction, but there is an increasing call for United States history. The majority of the borrowers are under twenty years of age. —*Literary World*.

The above statements are substantially correct; the circulation is steadily increasing, and this month averages about 145 a day. There are now about 3,600 volumes on the shelves. The call for United States history has always exceeded the supply.

MARY J. STUBBS, Librarian.

BERKSHIRE ATHENEUM, PITTSFIELD (Mass.). —J. E. A. Smith's historical sketch of the schools and Atheneum is issued in a pamphlet of 44 pages, entitled "Free Education in Pittsfield, Mass., 1761-1880." The sketch of the schools is substantially that which appeared in the school committee's report. The germ of the Atheneum he finds in the Pittsfield library association, which was founded in 1850, and in 1872 furnished 4,000 volumes for the present library. It was a private corporation, and the shares cost \$5 each. In 1870 it moved to what was the Agricultural bank building, which had been fitted up by individual contributions, and

was given the name of the Berkshire Atheneum. The institution has received from the town, including the site for the building, \$42,965; from Thomas Allen, \$53,800; from Calvin Martin, \$5,000; from Thomas F. Plunkett, \$3,000, and from other parties enough to make the total \$112,140. This does not include the bequest of Phineas Allen. The number of volumes in the library is 12,000; 3,600 persons hold cards, of whom 2,000 constantly draw books, and 40,000 volumes are loaned annually.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.—The report of Mr. Rice, Librarian of the City Library of Springfield, Mass., presented at the recent annual meeting of the City Library Association, shows a total of 43,345 volumes in the library, not including those received on deposit from the trustees of the State library and other sources. During the past year 979 volumes, exclusive of pamphlets, were added—879 by purchase and 100 by gift; 442 annual subscriptions and 916 subscriptions for six months were received. 12,173 persons applied for books and 20,888 volumes were furnished. This is by far the best record that has ever been reported, exceeding that of last year by nearly 4,000 persons and 5,500 volumes. An annotated card catalogue, regularly kept up, is to be a feature of the library hereafter, and the institution, it is claimed, was never in better condition to meet the wants of the community. Ephraim W. Bond was elected President for the ensuing year and a committee consisting of Rev. Washington Gladden, Samuel Bowles, Colonel Thompson, and other prominent citizens, was appointed to take measures for a direct appeal for permanent endowment.

LIB. OF CONGRESS.—Mr. Ainsworth Spofford, the librarian of Congress, has the most wonderful memory I ever encountered. He is absolutely invaluable to members of Congress and others who wish to know in what works they will find the subjects they wish to study most fully treated. He seems to have a compendium of the contents of each of the thousands of volumes in the library in his head, duly labeled and ready for use on demand. *Appropos* of librarians at the Capitol, I have heard Southern Democratic members of the House of Representatives speak in terms of the highest praise of the assistance they receive when they want references to any vexed question searched for in standard works, from Mr. Smith, who is employed in the House Library. They say that when they have no time—as is only too often the case—to make such a search for themselves, they have only to tell Mr. Wm. H. Smith, the colored messenger, who, in reality, is an assistant librarian, and he will look for all references to the question

at issue, and bring them the book or books with marks inserted on each page where there is anything in the text bearing upon the matter.—*Boston Eve. Gazette*.

ROCHESTER (N. Y.) LIBRARIES.—Rochester has five large libraries, besides smaller ones, of which Mr. D. M. Dewey gives some account in the *Rochester Evening Express*. The library of the University has 16,000 v. and a fund, at interest, of \$50,000; that of the Theological Seminary, 15,000 v. and \$50,000 fund, and it will expend this year \$10,000 for books. The law library of the Court of Appeals has 11,000 v.; there was formerly an annual grant of \$1,000 from the State, whose renewal is expected. The Public School Central Library (10,205 v.) is one of the libraries under the school-district library law; it obtains about \$800 annually, for the purchase of books, from State funds. "The general idea prevails," says Mr. Dewey, "that the State appropriation to school libraries is designed to furnish miscellaneous reading for the children of the schools, and for many years the books were held by the school district and the money expended mainly for children's books; hence for years this fund was entirely misunderstood and misappropriated. A few years since the books were all gathered into the Central Library, and an effort made to carry out the intention of the law in reference to school libraries, viz.: that the fund should be expended in the purchase of suitable books for the inhabitants of the district or city, and not merely for the children. The State designed to furnish the people of each district with a library of suitable reading books. Had this fund been properly invested in years past in accordance with the designs of the law, the Central Library would now have become one of the best libraries in our city." The Athenaeum Library contains 22,000 v., making in these five libraries about 75,000 volumes, with a fund to be expended this year of nearly \$15,000. Mr. Dewey advocates the erection of a suitable building and a union of the libraries, or, at least, of some of them, which would require but a small endowment.

GREAT BRITAIN.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—The Free Library is to be altered and extended, at a cost of £4,000.

MR. W. BLADES has in the press, to be published by Trübner, an illustrated volume on "The enemies of books."

BLACKPOOL.—The Earl of Derby opened a free library at this Lancashire watering-place, June

18th. The librarian is a lady—a gratifying sign of progress in Old England.

MANCHESTER.—The second catalogue of the Manchester Free Library is just printed, an index volume to accompany it being in the press. The books are recorded to the end of last year.

NOTTINGHAM.—The widow of the late Mr. S. Smith, of Woodberry Down, and author of "Lyrics of a life-time," has just presented about 600 vols. to the Free Public Library of Nottingham.

MR. A. COTGREAVE, of the Wednesbury Free Library, and the inventor of an indicator which he described at the meeting of our Association at Manchester, has been appointed Librarian of the new Public Library at Richmond.

OXFORD.—After a long and painful illness, Mr. W. H. Turner, of the Bodleian Library, died June 30th, aged 52. Mr. H. J. Matthews, M. A. (Exeter Coll.), has been appointed as *locum tenens* to the Rev. H. O. Cox, of the Bodleian.

"BRISTOL past and present" is the title of a work which is now publishing in parts, from the pens of Mr. J. F. Nicholls, F. S. A., chief librarian of the Bristol Free Libraries, and Mr. J. Taylor, librarian of the Bristol Museum and Library.

PROF. WILMANN, the head of the University Library at Göttingen, is now in England for the purpose of studying the arrangements of our great libraries, in order to select the best system for the new Göttingen Library, which is now in course of construction.

CAMBRIDGE.—The Syndics of the Cambridge University Library printed 14,047 titles for their general catalogue in 1879, the titles of English new books being 3,771; foreign, 2,078; additions by purchase and gift, 1,252, and 6,946 from titles printed from the old ms., carefully revised.

LONDON.—In June, 1879, 26,022 persons visited the free library, reading-room and museum of the corporation, at the Guildhall; June, this year, the number increased to 26,140, notwithstanding that the library was closed from June 12th to 18th. Twenty years ago, when access to the library was alone obtained by introductions from members of the corporation, only about 8,000 visited it in one year.

THE Duke of Westminster, the Marquis of Bute, Earl Stanhope, Lord Ronald Gower, Sir T. Erskine May, Sir George Campbell, M. P., Sir W. Muir, Sir W. Thomson, Lady Eastlake, Lady Lush, Professors Darwin and Max Müller, and many others, have recently forwarded donations to the Free Library, London street, Bethnal Green,

E. The institution is supported entirely by voluntary contributions, and the committee require 10,000 volumes.

CARDIFF LIB.—Ten years ago a fund of £1,000 for the purpose of erecting a building was realized as the proceeds of a Fine Art and Industrial Exhibition held in Cardiff, and at various times within the last twelve years schemes for a suitable building have been brought before the Cardiff public. Last year, after considering several sites, it was resolved to erect the building on one adjoining St. John's church-yard, which had become the property of the town. Competition drawings were accordingly advertised for, and on the first day of this year 107 sets of designs were sent in by architects in various parts of the kingdom. The first premium of £100 was awarded to Messrs. James Seward and Thomas, architects, of Cardiff, subject to their being able to satisfy the committee that the building can be erected for the amount of their estimate, £8,000. The authors have carefully adhered to the conditions laid down by the committee. The librarian and his assistants are so placed that the whole of the library-rooms are immediately under their supervision, and two entrances to the library are provided, so that ladies and students using the reference library and the borrowers' department need not encounter the usual newspaper-readers in entering or leaving. As required by the conditions, prominence has been given to the reference library, around which the books are stored in alcoves, accommodation for 100,000 volumes in all, including possible extension of storage-space, having been provided.

BRITISH MUSEUM CATALOGUING.—Since the commencement of this year, the catalogue of accessions (both old and new books) to the Printed-Book Department of the British Museum has been printed in 4° form. It is much to be regretted that, simultaneously with the reduction of this catalogue, some steps are not taken towards the preparation of a class catalogue, even if not for immediate publication. Mr. Wilson, in his brief paper at the Manchester Librarians' Conference on this subject, touched a chord which is widely felt, more especially among scientific readers. As he pointed out, something in this direction should at least be undertaken with regard to the current increase, while the portion of the library already catalogued and incorporated might be left until the class catalogue of current literature should demonstrate the expediency of a grant which would render possible a similar treatment of arrears. A minor suggestion made by Mr. Wilson in his paper has been adopted

in the new printed catalogue—the number of pages in a work is given. As some compensation for the want of a class catalogue, the authorities of the British Museum have recently caused a large number of special bibliographies to be selected from the mass of the general library, and placed at the disposal of the readers in separate presses in the reading-room. An important work of special bibliography, I may mention, is now in the publisher's hands. This is a classified bibliography of the topography of the United Kingdom. The compiler, Mr. Anderson, of the British Museum Library, has for many years been collecting materials for this work, which is destined to supply a very real want. The work is to include books up to the date of publication, which will probably be some time this year. The price will be 15 s. *to subscribers*, 21 s. after publication.

NOTTINGHAM F. P. LIBRARY.—According to the last annual report of the Nottingham Free Public Libraries, there were 24,774 v. in stock; 167,063 v. were issued during the year, in addition to about 5,000 v. consulted in the branch reading-rooms, against 163,080 v. in the preceding year; 1,562,021 v. have been issued since the opening of the libraries in 1868; there were at the end of the library year 5,324 *bona fide* members of the Central Lending Library; the Reference Library was greatly increasing in popularity and usefulness; and the attendance at the reading-rooms was estimated at 350,000. The future home of the libraries, which is being erected by the corporation—at the University College, which has cost £70,000—is almost ready for the decorators. The libraries will probably be removed very early next year. Before the removal, it is intended to largely increase the stock of the Reference Library. The selection of the books is being made on a novel and eminently practical plan. Circulars have been issued to a number of specialists in various departments, asking them to name books (1) necessary, and (2) desirable to have in a good reference library, at the same time furnishing them with a list of such books in the library on the subjects asked to be reported upon. The result thus far has been very satisfactory. When completed the lists will be selected from, and thus the library will be built up in every department on a good, sound and liberal basis. A series of articles on the Free Public Libraries of Nottingham, written by "Scriptus," are now appearing in the *Midland Sunbeam*. The first article consisted of a laudatory notice of Mr. J. Potter Briscoe, F. R. H. S., principal librarian, who, by the way, is the author of several local works which have achieved great popularity. The last is devoted to a notice of

some of the numerous and valuable gifts which have been obtained through the energy of Mr. Briscoe.

It may also be stated in this connection that there is now being published in the columns devoted by the editor of the *Nottingham Daily Guardian* to *Local Notes and Queries* (of which Mr. Briscoe, F. R. H. S., is editor), a selection from "The Stretton mss.," in the Nottingham Free Public Library. This publication is throwing much light on the history of the good old town of Nottingham.

SPAIN.

M. VICTOR LIEUTARD, librarian of the city of Marseilles, has been sent to Spain to study the libraries, their organization, management, importance and catalogs.

AUSTRALIA.

SYDNEY F. P. LIB.—In the British section at the western gallery of the Garden Palace, not far from the organ, there is to be seen an ingenious invention of revolving book-cases, with some other useful appliances for libraries, now being exhibited by Messrs. Trübner & Co. (library agents and publishers), of Ludgate-hill, London, and a collection of about 200 volumes of valuable books. We are informed that by the last mail the trustees of the Sydney Free Public Library received a letter from this London firm, stating that it was their intention, at the closing of the Exhibition, to offer for the acceptance of the trustees the books in question, with one of the before-mentioned book-cases, and "that it would be a great pleasure to them (Trübner & Co.) to be permitted to add their mite to the stores of the Free Library." The donations to the library, with the exception of the late Mr. Justice Wise's bequest and the gift of the late Dr. Lang, have not been many nor of any great value. It is to be hoped that this handsome present of Messrs. Trübner & Co. may induce others who have sent books to the colony for exhibition to recognize the usefulness of our Public Library in a similar manner.—*Sydney Public Herald*.

[This book-case is copied by Messrs. Trübner from the Danner case, sent them by the Supply Department of the A. L. A. So America has the credit of invention.—ED.]

ICELAND.

Icelandic Libraries.—The chief public collections are:—1. The Stiptisbókasafn, or National Library, of nearly 30,000 volumes, which is to find ample accommodation in the new Althing House, or Cap-

itol, now building. Its librarian is the learned Jón Árnason. It is in want of books relating in any way to Iceland, sets of the publications of learned societies, statistical works, treatises on political economy and publications of foreign governments. Gifts may be addressed simply "Stiptisbókasafn, Reykjavik, Iceland." 2. The Library of the College (9,000 vols.) at Reykjavik. 3. The Students' Library (1,500 vols.), with which is connected a reading-room, used by the 24 professors and 150 students of the College, the Divinity, Law and Medical Schools and the Female Seminary in Reykjavik. 4. The Northern Provincial Library at Akureyi on the North coast (4,500 vols.), with which is connected a public reading-room. 5. The Western Provincial Library at Stykkishólmur in the West (1,200 vols.). Besides these, the Medical School and Divinity School at Reykjavik have each small collections of books; and another is to be formed for the new Technical School at Möðruvellir, near Akureyi. Iceland is within the Berne Postal Union, the postage rates being the same as between Germany and France, or England and America. These facts are from a circular issued by Willard Fiske, now in Berlin, who adds:

"To no spot can books be sent with so much certainty of their being intelligently and eagerly read as to Iceland. No country reads so many books in proportion to its population, and none is so ill able to purchase them."

LIBRARY HUMOR.

A FRIEND of mine proposes to put Owen's "Footfalls on the Boundaries of Another World" in Travels. Shall we let him? E. C. A.

SOME years ago the Taunton Public Library had a call for Collins's "Ace of Spades," which did duty in the inquirer's mind for "The Queen of Hearts."

SHOULD "Murray's Sermons" be numbered 240 or 2.40? H. P. J.

[240 is the Dai number for devotional works. Murray's homiletics and horses are both fast, and as nice a shade of meaning lurks in the period above as in the red binding of the British Museum to indicate bloody history.]

SOMEBODY asked us the other day if we had a book called "The Red Badge." It was about the time of the battle-flag procession, and we naturally thought it some army book, until the pursuer of knowledge said that he thought it was by Hawthorne. We gave him "The Scarlet Letter," which was what he wanted. C. M. HEWINS.

Four Books that Should Be in Every Library.

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Selections from the works of LONGFELLOW, WHITTIER, BRYANT, HOLMES, LOWELL and EMERSON. With Biographical Sketches and Notes explaining the Historical and Personal Allusions. 1 vol., 16mo, 463 pages, \$1.25.

This book contains several of the most characteristic long poems by the eminent writers above named. The list of pieces selected is as follows:

LONGFELLOW:—Evangeline; The Courtship of Miles Standish; The Building of the Ship.
WHITTIER:—Snow-Bound; Among the Hills; Mabel Martin; Cobbler Keekar's Vision; Barclay of Ury; The Two Rabbis; The Gift of Tritemius; The Brother of Mercy; The Prophecy of Samuel Sewall; Maud Muller.
BRYANT:—Sella; The Little People of the Snow.
HOLMES:—Grandmother's Story of the Battle of Bunker Hill; The School-Boy.
LOWELL:—The Vision of Sir Launfal; Under the Willows; Under the Old Elm; Agassiz.
EMERSON:—The Adirondacks; The Titmouse; Monadnoc.

All these poems are given in full, and foot-notes explain passages containing allusions which might not be understood by readers.

Brief biographical sketches of the poets are given, to answer the questions that naturally arise in regard to authors and their careers.

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In the preface Mr. Lodge says of this book: "It is designed to breed a liking for good poetry, and to suggest more extended reading in the works, both in prose and in verse, of the best authors. The first essential point was to awaken interest, without which all attempts to teach are vain, and this will explain the variety in the style of the poems and in their arrangement. Simplicity of thought and diction has been required of every poem which has been admitted, and this has led to the introduction of a large proportion of narrative poems or ballads, which are also, as it seemed to me, best fitted to interest children. The lyrics which have been selected are, so far as possible, the simplest of their kind, both in form and in idea."

"The selection, in my opinion, could not have been better made. So far as I am acquainted with the authors represented in the volume, it would be impossible to select from any one of them the same number of other pieces approaching in merit those here printed. The book would be invaluable to any one who has not full editions of the poets."

—A. F. Peabody, D. D., of Harvard University.

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LONGFELLOW:—The Valley of the Loire; Journey into Spain.
WHITTIER:—Yankee Gypsies; The Boy Captives.
HOLMES:—The Gambrel-Roofed House.
LOWELL:—My Garden Acquaintance.
THOREAU:—Sounds; Brute Neighbors; The Highland Light.
EMERSON:—Behavior; Books.

Any person familiar with these essays and stories will recognize their great and varied interest, as well as their unquestionable literary excellence and charm. The Notes explain allusions which, without explanation, would be unmeaning or obscure to youthful readers; and the Introductions give much interesting information concerning the authors and their writings.

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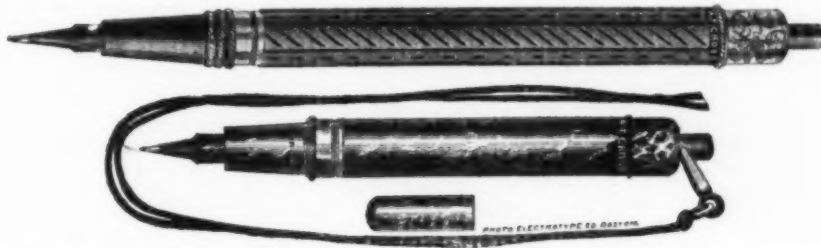
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